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FOREIGN MINISTRY SUMMONS U.S. AMBASSADOR

PY092146 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2134 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Mar (NA) -- The Argentine Government has asked U.S. Ambassador Harry Shlaudeman to explain a document released through the U.S. Embassy in which it is mentioned that Cuba had given support to the extremist organization the Montoneros. A foreign ministry source said this afternoon that it is "high significant" that this document was released only a few hours after President Reynaldo Bignone voiced before the nonaligned countries his gratitude to Cuba for its support for the Argentine claim of sovereignty over the Malvinas.

Shlaudeman was summoned to the Foreign Ministry late this afternoon in order to convey to him the displeasure of the Argentine Government and to ask him for the appropriate explanation.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON NONALIGNED PARTICIPATION

PY092230 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Interview granted by Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari in New Delhi on 9 March -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] We know that in the speeches delivered in the past few hours, many presidents referred to Latin American issues and particularly to the Malvinas issue, as far as Argentina is concerned.

[Answer] Yes, you are right. Some heads of state have referred to the Malvinas issue in their speeches. But, above all, our country should be aware of the resolution approved on the Malvinas. Yesterday, the Latin American work group -- the Grula as it is called here -- which is made up of the representatives of all the Latin American countries, held a very long meeting that lasted until 0600 today. The meeting discussed some aspects of Latin American issues; it analyzed the draft resolution drawn up by India on the basis of the resolution adopted during the Managua meeting. Some amendments were proposed and adopted. The meeting was very long because there was no agreement on some partial aspects. However, as far as we are concerned, the draft resolution on the Malvinas and the amendments proposed by us were, fortunately, approved. As there was consensus among the Latin American group, this draft resolution will be submitted to the drafting committee, the political committee and finally to the plenary meeting of heads of state. The draft resolution will follow this course provided that major amendments are not introduced and that no problems arise.

I would like to point out something resulting from Argentina's presence.

[Question -- interrupting] That is precisely what I wanted to ask you about. A lot of comments are being made on this subject.

[Answer] Well, I believe that whenever one wants to have influence in any activity of life one needs to take action, such as participating in meetings, showing interest in things, carrying out activities, safeguarding one's rights and showing willingness to exert influence. Many foreign ministers have commented to me on Argentina's active participation in this event. However, we are not doing it only because we are interested in the Malvinas issue. We are undoubtedly interested in this issue but, responding to those countries that claim that we came to the nonaligned meeting only because we are interested in the Malvinas issue, I tell you that our representatives are participating in many other commissions, such as the economic commission, for example.

[Question] Yes, and these commissions are discussing other issues.

[Answer] Yes, they are discussing other issues in addition to the Malvinas. Here as well Argentina has to make its presence, voice and opinions felt and listened to as much as possible. What I wanted to point out to you is [words indistinct] support from Latin America. During previous meetings at the United Nations, the OAS and even at the Managua meeting, not all the Latin American countries were in agreement with our position regarding the Malvinas. Some refrained from giving their views, others disagreed with it and I would say that some of them were even categorically opposed to it. However, during yesterday's meeting, some of the countries who had refrained from giving their opinion clearly expressed their support for Argentina's rights. Only one country has disclosed that it would abstain from voting. Therefore, Argentina has obtained consensus from the Latin American group.

Now I would like refer to a last minute report. The Latin American group document was submitted to the African group for consideration this morning. Some of these countries, which are not in favor of it -- I do not know whether because of the Malvinas issue or of some other Latin American issue -- stated that they could not approve the resolution outright and that they needed a few hours to analyze it. It was thought that the resolution would be approved without previous discussion, but it was not so. For this reason, the consideration of this draft resolution has been postponed. I believe that the African group will discuss it some time today, and we hope that no problems will arise.

PRESIDENT'S NONALIGNED ACTIVITIES REPORTED 9 MAR

PY092018 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1405 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Excerpts] New Delhi, 9 Mar (TELAM) -- Today, once again a day marked by intense activity, President Reynaldo Bignone met with the heads of six delegations. Bignone also attended the conference hall, where more than 20 nonaligned representatives delivered their speeches. While the heads of the delegations, chiefly heads of state, delivered their speeches, the members of their entourages work intensively from 0800 until dawn in order to reconcile views for the purpose of drawing up the final document.

Today, apart from holding six interviews and from listening to most of the speeches delivered at the conference hall, President Bignone also put the final touches on the speech he might deliver tomorrow, depending whether the timetable for the speeches is observed.

Today the Argentine president met with Yugoslav President Petar Stambolic, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Benin's President Ahmad Kerekou, Jordan's King Husyan, Peruvian Vice President Javier Alva Orlandini and with the Mexican foreign minister.

The Argentine delegation has witnessed the support for Argentina expressed by the nonaligned countries following the Malvinas conflict. The solidarity expressed to Argentina ranges from the express reference made to the Malvinas issue in the speeches delivered by the heads of state, such as Yugoslav President Stambolic and Cuban President Castro, down to the questions being put to the Argentine delegation by many of the almost 4,000 journalists present in New Delhi. This solidarity is also being expressed during the official contacts and the informal talks held continuously in the press room, hotels, embassies and on the streets of this magnificent city. Here one can deeply feel the influence of India's ancient cultures and of its various religions above and beyond the temporary invasion of people from 120 countries.

General Bignone also held separate meetings with the presidents of Saudi Arabia, Algeria, Mauritius and with Mrs Ghandi's son Shri Rajiv Ghandi. After returning to the Ashok Hotel and staying there for 20 minutes, General Bignone went back to the conference building, where he stayed throughout the session. There General Bignone met with the presidents of Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Egypt, Perez de Cuellar and with the Romanian foreign minister. Bignone held a long talk with the Romanian foreign minister and he invited him to visit Argentina. During the talk with Perez de Cuella, Bignone conveyed to him Argentina's willingness to negotiate regarding the Malvinas issue and to comply with resolution 37/9. Upon returning to his hotel, General Bignone talked with Bangladesh's President H.M. Ershad. After that General Bignone reviewed his speech with Foreign Minister Aguirre Lanari. Today President Bignone also met with Yugoslav President Petar Stambolic, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra and Peruvian Vice President Javier Alva Orlandini at the conference building. In between these meetings, General Bignone participated in the deliberations at the Vigyan Bhavan. Bignone also talked with Jordan's King Husayn. During the meeting, which was described as very cordial, Bignone invited King Husayn to visit Buenos Aires. General Bignone then talked with Benin's President Ahmad Kerekou and with the Mexican foreign minister, who conveyed to him President de la Madrid's personal greetings.

DEBT FOR PURCHASE OF GAS TO BE PAID TO BOLIVIA

PY091254 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] The Argentine Government has informed Bolivian Central Bank officials that in the next few days it will pay its $127 million-debt for the purchase of natural gas. The payment will cover bills that came due in the last couple of months. Bolivian Central Bank officials noted that this is the result of negotiations carried out in Argentina by Defense Minister Jose Ortiz Mercado who has travelled to Argentina three times since the democratic government has assumed power. Moreover, they added that officials from Argentina's state gas company have started to carry out the proper procedures to deposit the $127 million.

REPORT ON FLOODS IN NORTHEASTERN AREA 4 MAR

PY041527 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 4 Mar 83

[Summary] The situation caused by the floods affecting the northeastern area is becoming increasingly worse. In the meantime those persons living on the banks of the Parana River are getting ready to face the problems that may arise when the river crests sometime during the coming weeks and massive evacuations continue. The Uruguay River water level also continues to rise and threatens to overflow the Salta Grande Dam. It has been reported that the number of persons evacuated in Santa Fe Province is 13,610. In Corrientes the problems caused by the floods are particularly serious in the cities of Goya, Paso de la Patria and Itaty. Yesterday afternoon the Parana River water level at Corrientes was 8.34 meters. In Puerto Iguazu the water level dropped 1.27 meters. The number of persons evacuated in Entre Rios amounts to approximately 5,100 as a consequence of the floods caused by the Parana and Uruguay Rivers and their tributaries. The river water level in Chaco Province at Barranqueras reached 8.02 meters and is expected to continue to rise. The Army has disclosed that it is cooperating with the regional authorities in order to deal with the problems caused by the floods affecting northeastern Argentina.

PRESS, RADIO WORKERS START 24-HOUR STOPPAGE

PY100152 La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Text] The press workers of the morning papers suspended work today and tomorrow those of the afternoon papers and the radio stations will do the same. In accordance with a resolution of the Bolivian Press Workers Federation [FTPB] and the La Paz Press Workers Union. That sector today initiated the 24-hour stoppage protesting the failure to comply with an arbitration decision compelling the employing enterprises to pay a bonus equivalent to two and a half salaries to their employees in compensation for the high cost of living.

The workers of the morning papers suspended work today and those of the afternoon papers and the press sections of the radio stations will not work tomorrow, so on Thursday no newspapers will appear and no radio newscasts will be broadcast. The intention of the stoppage is to put pressure on the National Press Association [ANP] to order its member enterprises to pay the bonus awarded in the arbitration decision. Despite the FTPB decision, the ANP has repeated its rejection of the arbitration decision in a letter to President Siles Zuazo.

Broadcasters' Communique

PY100011 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] The Radio and Television Workers Federation issued today at noon a communique in which they support the Bolivian Press Federation workers' decision to strike.

The Executive Board of the Radio and Television Workers Federation informs the public of its decision to grant moral and material support to the La Paz [as heard] press federation with the purpose of enforcing the terms of an arbitration award approved by the constitutional government.

The Bolivian press unions today rejected the statement issued by the National Press Association owners.

PUBLIC SERVANTS ANNOUNCE 24-HOUR STRIKE

PY100228 Paris AFP in Spanish 0144 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Text] La Paz, 9 Mar (AFP) — It was announced here today that a new general 24-hour strike, accompanied by a voluntary group hunger strikes, will be held tomorrow, Thursday, throughout the country by the public servants. They are demanding recognition of their right to form unions. In an effort to prevent a paralyzation of public administration, the executive branch has urgently sent to the Senate a draft law recognizing the right of public servants to form unions. According to the document, all state employees will be able to organize unions, except the personnel working at the Interior Ministry, National Guard and Armed Forces personnel, the presidency of the republic and the foreign service. The top-ranking and elective personnel of municipalities, decentralized bodies and ministries, as well as those enjoying the president's political confidence, will also be excluded from the right to form unions.

The public servants, backed by the Bolivian Labor Federation, demand the repeal of Article 104 of the general labor law which forbids public administration employees to form unions. A government spokesman said: We hope that sending the draft law to the legislative branch will lead to a suspension of the strike and a normal work situation.

PRESIDENT FIGUEIREDO WANTS CONSENSUS ON PROGRAM

PY090207 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 7 Mar 83 p 4

[Excerpt] Brasila -- "My principal aim is to try to attain consensus through debate, negotiation and understanding. In sum, we have to have consensus in order to make the nation's great political decision. Obviously, good faith, and good intentions are necessary on both sides. I believe we have them and so we will attain that consensus." That remark was made by President Figueiredo yesterday during the program "The People and the President," which is aired over O Globo Television Network. He then made an analysis of the country's political and economic situation, and said that Brazil "is going through a difficult time," but that "with IMF loans and foreign banks, it will be able to breathe for a while."

During the interview granted to Ney Goncalves, President Figueiredo admitted that it will be impossible to avoid "a certain amount of sacrifice," but added that it would be "unfair to blame the government for what is happening. However, there are some people who insist on closing their eyes to reality, on denying the truth. They insist that the government is to blame. Certain newspapers also distort and twist reality to attack the government. This is a poor service to the community and the wrong way to take advantage of freedom of the press, he said.

Without mentioning names, the president of the nation said that "certain politicians of the opposition who treat public matters in a serious manner acknowledge that my proposal is valid. Together with my entire party, they have proven that they fully understand the situation we are facing and that they want to take advantage of the opportunity to demonstrate that their intentions are serious."

Speaking about economic affairs, President Figueiredo said that he will assign priority to "the program of adjustments," which is aimed at a greater trade surplus. "For this," he added, "we must save, cut expenditures, and involve the entire nation, and especially all government sectors, in this policy of austerity. I will say this once again: My instructions are to make the public sector bear the amount of this adjustment so as to reduce to the extent possible the impact on the private sector, the businessmen and the workers."

NEW GOVERNORS AGREE TO COOPERATE WITH PRESIDENT

PY090007 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 7 Mar 83 p 2

[Excerpts] Belo Horizonte -- According to the Rio de Janeiro governor-elect, Governors-Elect Tancredo Neves and Leonel Brizola yesterday agreed during a 20-minute meeting in this capital that President Figueiredo must be facing a very difficult time and that it would be "fitting and proper for us to assume an attitude of understanding and cooperation with the president. "

Tancredo Neves preferred not to make any comments to the press on any of the topics discussed during the conversation held on the third floor of the Normandy Hotel. The meeting was followed from a distance by journalists and members of the Minas Gerais Democratic Labor Party (PDT) leadership. Returning from the meeting alone after bidding farewell to Tancredo Neves, Brizola was asked to explain the significance of the meeting. A reporter pointed out that the 20-minute meeting was formal. The reporter asked if the two governors-elect talked about the need to preserve the image of President Figueiredo's government. Brizola said that the conversation was brief but finally admitted: "Really, we referred to the difficulties which President Figueiredo must be facing at this time.

And we both also agreed that it would be fitting and proper for us to assume an attitude of understanding and cooperation with the president with the certainty that the president would also gradually become more sensitive to the aspirations of the Brazilian people, who want to decide their future, to govern themselves and particularly to decide on matters affecting them. This position is not necessarily ours, I believe this is a general feeling.

FINANCE MINISTRY HOLDS BACK MONEY FOR LOANS

FY091650 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] The finance minister has ordered the Bank of Brazil to cut back 45 billion cruzeiros in loanable money this month. According to explanations given by Bank of Brazil President Osvaldo Colin, the measure was dictated by the need to contain the expansion of the monetary base and the money supply. He also said that this cut will affect industry and commerce more directly in view of the priority the government bestows on agriculture.

Since the need for resources to defray the cost of production will now be greater in the central southern region where planting is beginning now, the Bank of Brazil is committed to disburse the money necessary for such operations. This cutback should raise the interest rates and, according to the Bank of Brazil president, it will only pressure the search for resources from private banks.

FUND TO SPUR EXPORTS OFFICIALLY ESTABLISHED

FY090244 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 Mar 83 p 20

[Excerpts] The National Economic and Social Development Bank [BNUES] has already approved two operations through the recently created National Participation Fund [Funpar -- Fundo Nacional de Participacoes]. The creation of Funpar was made official yesterday by the BNDES in a ceremony held with the participation of Planning Ministry Secretary General Flavio Pecora, Banco do Brasil Foreign Trade Department [Cacex] Director Carlos Viacava, and approximately 200 businessmen. BNDES President Luis Sande also announced the beginning of operations of the Program of Support for the Substitution of Imports [Prosim -- Programa de Apoio a Substituciao de Importacoes] and of the Program of Support for an Increase in Exports [Proex — Programa de Apoio ao Incremento das Exportacoes].

Funpar will have available 100 billion cruzeiros this year, and the same amount was invested in the two programs related to foreign trade. In the specific case of Proism, $300 million more (approxmiately 120 billion cruzeiros) might be allocated this year. This amount will be supplied by the World Bank.

Funpar was created to financially assist enterprises through offering loans and financing, and by taking shares and debentures in deposit until renegotated with the depositor. In the case of loans and other financing, the enterprises will pay an overall monetary correction and an annual interest rate of 8 percent. The shares and debentures will be recovered or bought back in a period of 5 years.

The Proex will finance exporting companies that assume the responsibility of increasing exports every 2 years. These companies will be allowed to form consortiums to meet their goals.

If the companies form consortiums, they will have to designate a "trading company" [given in English] to coordinate their export activities. The necessary investments will be totally financed for the full utilization of the enterprises' productive capacity, including the purchase of machines and equipment and technological developments. The loans will be paid in 5 years, with monetary correction and interest rates of 12 percent per year. The interest rate can be reduced if the enterprises pay the loans in advance.

Prosim will support the enterprises which assume the responsibility of import substitution. The interest rate, in this case, will be 6 percent annually, plus full monetary correction, and the enterprises will be subject to sanctions if they do not meet their goals in the established period (to make repayments on schedule).

GOVERNMENT PROPOSES CREATING COMMERCIAL PAPER

PY071239 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 5 Mar 83 p 21

[Excerpt] Brasilia -- President Figueiredo sent to Congress yesterday a bill proposing the creation of commercial papers which will be financial papers issued and negotiated by enterprises directly, without the participation of banks as brokers. The main objective of this bill is to help abate internal interest rates.

According to the bill, those papers will never have values under 6,584,000 cruzieros (or 2,000 National Treasury Readjustable Orders [ORTN])with 180-day maturity at the most. These papers will only be issued by enterprises registered with the securities commission, and with a minimum capital of 1,646,000,000 (or 500,000 ORTN's). The latter requirement shows that only large size enterprises will be able to participate in this market.

CONGRESS TO REVIEW NATIONAL SECURITY LAW

PY091617 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0230 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Agreements for the creation of a Congressional Investigation Commission (CPI) on the national security law have been successfully completed.

[Carlos Rodriguez relay from Brasilia] A special commission has been installed in Congress charged with examining the national security law in order to propose amendments or even the repeal of that law. The proposal by Senator Nelson Carneiro of the Rio de Janeiro PTB [Brazilian Labor Party] mustered the support of all the parties, including the PDS [Social Democratic Party]; a support which should (?facilitate) the work of that commission, according to an explanation given by government leader Senator Otavio Chaves. [Begin Chaves recording] We do not have any objections to that commission undertaking the study, because it will only be gathering suggestions, data and elements as a basis for a decision to be made later. [passage indistinct]. [end recording]

We then talked about this with PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] Ulysses Guimaraes. [Begin Guimaraes recording] Any proposal, any initiative aimed at repealing the national security law will have the support of the PMDB. [passage indistinct] [end recording].

The initiative of Senator Nelson Carneiro was well received by congressmen, because the commission will at least promote a polemical debate on the national security law. Congressional leaderships expect an amendment to that law. [end Carlos Rodrigues relay from Brasilia]

MINISTRY EXPELS 2 PRIESTS, ALLOWS EXILES' RETURN

Priests' Visas Canceled

PY091645 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Relay from Government House by Graciela Contreras]

[Excerpt] In referring to the priests whose visas have been cancelled, Interior Minister Enrique Montero stated that they will have to leave the country once they have been notified of this measure and the days they have been granted to remain in the country are up.

The government has cancelled the visas on an Irish and an Australian priest.

The minister pointed out that the visas have been cancelled due to a decision of the Chilean Government and that he will not disclose the reasons for taking this measure for the time being.

105 Exiles To Return

PY092301 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Relay from Government House by Graciela Contreras]

[Text] According to the list released by the government through the Interior Ministry, a total of 105 persons, along with 3 children, may return to Chile as of today. Interior Ministry Under Secretary Jose Francisco Folch stated to journalists accredited at La Moneda Palace that this represents the fulfillment of another of the guidelines established by President Pinochet to gradually move toward national unity.

Folch also disclosed that the program will continue to be implemented in compliance with the president's orders and that, as has been customary since the president issued his guidelines, another list will be released at a date Folch could not disclose right now.

UNION LEADER ARRESTED FOR PUNCTURING TIRES

PY091517 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] A union leader of the Copper Manufacturers, Inc (Madeco) was arrested for spreading devices to puncture tires by carabineros. The official report issued by the carabineros states that the union leader identified as (Manuel Jovino Espinoza Espinoza), 44, is the treasurer of Madeco Labor Union No 1. (Espinoza) works for Madeco and is also a member of the Communist Party.

The incident started when members of the 12th carabineros precinct learned that a group of unidentified persons had spread a great many devices to puncture tires on Ureta Cox Street, some 100 meters from the Gran Avenida. As a consequence a traffic jam was caused by the punctured tires of three vehicles. Upon their arrival, the carabineros started to question and search several people. The Madeco leader was found to be carrying six devices to puncture tires in his clothing. The arrested union leader has been placed at the disposal of the Interior Ministry and charged with violating the state's security law.

KIDNAPPERS THREATEN TO KILL U.S. OIL EXECUTIVE

PA091455 Paris AFP in Spanish 1434 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Bogota, 9 Mar (AFP) -- The People's Revolutionary Organization [Organizacion Revoluncionaria del Pueblo, ORP] announced today that it is holding U.S. businessman Kenneth Stanley Bishop, who was kidnapped last Monday. The ORP, which kidnapped and executed Gloria Lara, director of the Colombian Community Action, last year, announced that it will kill Bishop on 29 March if the Texas Petroleum Company fails to meet its demands. The group made the announcement today in a communique sent to the newspaper EL BOGOTANO along with a photograph of Bishop standing in front of a black flag with the letters ORP printed in red.

Bishop is the exploration manager of the Texas Petroleum Company in Colombia. He was kidnapped early last Monday. The criminals killed the driver and the bodyguard to abduct Bishop. The ORP conditions do not appear in the communique, but it was indicated that apparently they have been sent to the directors of Texas Petroleum in Bogota.

Here is the text of the ORP communique: "We advise the public and the Texas Petroleum Company that Mr Bishop Kenneth Stanley [name as received], executive of this company is in our hands. He will be executed on 29 March if the multinational in question does not meet our demands before the date indicated. ORP."

Kidnapping Attributed to M-19

PA092359 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2010 GMT 9 Mar 83

[By Librado Aguirre Saenz]

[Excerpt] Bogota, 9 Mar (EFE) -- Colombia's state security services today coincided in pointing out that the kidnapping of U.S. citizen Kenneth Bishop last Monday in Bogota was committed by 19 April Movement, M-19, guerrillas, who are thereby initiating an offensive after a 3-month truce. The secret services' appreciation is based on statements made by Congressman Adolfo Cadena, who meet last week with M-19 members who told him of their intention to resume a full-scale struggle.

In statements to a Bogota newspaper, Cadena said that the M-19 had told him that "next week (that is, this week) you will have news about us because the struggle is our only alternative."

The security services have attached special importance to the legislator's statements and, in spite of the fact that the group has not publicly conceded that it has Bishop, the Texas Petroleum Company's explorations manager, it is believed that it does have him due to the manner in which the kidnapping was committed. Bishop was captured by three men and a woman in northern Bogota in an action in which his two bodyguards were killed. The bodyguards were retired Army noncommissioned officers.

SUPREME COURT INVALIDATES NEW ECONOMIC DECREES

PA090215 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] Bogota -- The new property registration systems and the extension of the industry and trade taxes for financial entities, decreed because of the economic emergency, were invalidated when the Supreme Court of Justice declared the decrees unconstitutional.

By a narrow margin of 13 votes to 11, the Supreme Court declared the unconstitutionality of decrees 3745, 3815, 3816 under which the government, in developing article 122 of the Constitution, had substantially modified the provisions on property registration and industrial and trade tax.

The main aspect of decree 3745, aside from organizing and bringing up to date the registration systems, was an automatic readjustment by 10 percent per year for a period of 15 years intended to broaden the tax base and allow the treasury to receive taxes on the many rural and urban properties. Decree 3815 established readjustments in several industry and trade tax areas, while decree 3816, which amended law 57 of 1981, extended the industry and trade tax to all banking, financial and insurance entities and general warehouses.

By virtue of the constitutional mandate, the Supreme Court of Justice will today continue discussing other measures adopted because of the economic emergency. Among these we have the decrees that regulate the tax on vehicles, reorganize the special exchange accounts and unite the tax on production and consumption of liquor in the country.

It is believed that these decrees, like the others, will be declared invalid by the Supreme Court. Therefore, the government will have to draft bills for Congress to decide on implementation of these rules, which were intended to stabilize the critical fiscal situation of the country.

NEW ANTI-CRIME GROUP ISSUES COMMUNIQUE IN CALI

PA090210 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Cali, Colombia -- As result of the social crisis affecting the country, a new group has been created in this city which seeks to take justice into its own hands. This organization, which calls itself "the Group," sent to this station's news department in Valle Department a communique which states:

We are giving all criminals no more than 30 days to leave the city. This includes crooks, muggers and the rest of such human scum, up to dishonest officials and cowardly kidnappers. Anyone found in this city after 9 April by one of our members will be tried and sentenced to death without appeal, regardless of color, sex or political status.

In view of this communique, Col (Osvaldo Caravallo Diaz) said that the Valle Police Command condemns any action contrary to Colombian law.

LIBERALS ACCUSE GOVERNMENT OF COMMUNIST METHODS

PY081937 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 7 Mar 83 p 8

[Text] Through a press release, the Liberal Party has accused the government of resorting to the "communist method of certifying as insane those persons who disagree with the government's view of a political paradise," such as the case of Luis A. Resk. In this regard, the Liberal Party states that: "The interior minister's charges that Luis A. Resk -- a person with whose methods we disagree but whose desire to see our country on a democratic path we share -- is mentally ill. In addition to being groundless, the charge obviously reveals the use of the communist method of certifying as insane those who do not agree with the government's view of a political paradise."

GOVERNMENT DECREES CHANGE IN GASOLINE PRICES

PY071739 Asuncion Teledifusora Paraguaya Television in Spanish 1530 GMT 7 Mar 83

[Text] We are now able to confirm what we reported earlier in the day. The National Economic Council has established new gasoline prices. Regular will cost 130 guaranies per liter while super will cost 170 guaranies per liter.

SITUATION CRITICAL IN AYOLAS FLOOD AREA

PY060137 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 4 Mar 83 p 9

[Excerpt] Encarnacion -- The entire commercial and financial district of the city of Ayolas -- with the exceprion of the Santa Rosa neighborhood and the towns surrounding Yacyreta -- are under water. The flood situation in Ayolas is much more serious than in Encarnacion for two reasons: First, it is the downtown area that is flooded and second, the flood was unexpected. In only 2 days the waters covered everything and the people could not save anything, not even the most basic things.

Supplies Sent to Victims

PY091742 Asuncion Teledifusora Paraguaya Television Spanish 1530 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Excerpt] In keeping with President Stroessner's instructions, a new shipment of staples was sent to those who have been affected by the floods in the southern region of the country.

Seven thousand kilograms of staples will be distributed to residents of Cerrito and Guardia-Cue. First Lieutenant Sanabria, who is now in Ayolas and will later go to Cerrito and Guardia-Cue by boat, it in charge of distributing these staples.

Another batch of staples will be sent this afternoon to Paso de Patria and Itacora. The boat carrying these staples left early this morning. This group is headed by First Lieutenant (Picagua), who will distribute the staples late this afternoon.

GOVERNMENT DECLARES STATE OF EMERGENCY IN LIMA

PY100305 Paris AFP in Spanish 0237 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Text] Lima, 9 Mar (AFP) -- The Peruvian Government tonight suspended individual guarantees in Lima Department in order to face the possibility of disruption of the means of communication during the general 24-hour strike decreed by the central labor organizations for tomorrow.

A decree released tonight, which went into force immediately according to the government news agency, said that the state of emergency will be in force for 4 days in Lima Department. Lima Department is the most important and most densely populated of the country, with about 30 percent of the population of the country and 60 percent of its industry.

The decree also says that the reason for the state of emergency is the damage caused to the lines of communication linking Lima with the central Andean region through floods and landslides, which might affect the capital's food supply. It is estimated that the construction of a provisional bypass to reopen the highway to the Andean region will take 4 days, the decree says. It further says that there has been incitement to the crime of destroying roads on the part of disruptive elements who have damaged public roads on earlier occasions. During earlier general stoppages, the strikers constructed transport by blocking the main Lima avenues with stones and other objects, which led to clashes with the police.

Tomorrow's strike has been called in protest of the government's economic and labor policy.

TERRORISTS TAKE AYACUCHO RADIO STATION 9 MAR

PY092358 Paris AFP in Spanish 0441 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Lima, 8 Mar 9 (AFP) -- Commandos of the Shining Path extremist group took a radio station today, located only 200 meters from the police barracks in Ayacucho, and broadcast subversive proclamations for 15 minutes. The sudden attack took place shortly after noon, local time, when all the population of that Andean city, 575 km southeast of Lima, were at work in the atmosphere of normalcy that has been habitual since the Armed Forces took control of nine provinces in the region toward the end of last year.

The Shining Path proclamations, recorded in Spanish and Quechua and broadcast over Radio La Voz de Huamanga, said that the Shining Path continues its struggle and that the morale of the fighters remains high despite their casualities; they concluded by commemorating the anniversary of the assault on Ayacucho prison and the liberation of hundreds of prisoners on 3 March 1982. The Shining Path called on the people to take up the armed struggle and stated that it will take revenge for all those who have been killed.

The radio station personnel, who had been locked up in the bathrooms, were set free by the police who held them for interrogation. A large-scale search operation is going on in Ayacucho to capture the subversives.

This is the third time that Shining Path commandos have taken this radio station in Ayacucho in the last few months. They also took a radio station in Huanta, 70 km north of Ayacucho, 1 week ago, also for the purpose of broadcasting proclamations.

FOUR-POINT PLAN FOR FOREIGN DEBT RENEGOTIATION

PY100043 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Peru succeeded in renegotiating its foreign debt. Banking sources in New York announced that Peru renegotiated its foreign debt with 110 creditor banks through a four-point plan that will allow the country to cover its financial needs in 1983. Under the first point a 90-day extension is granted to repay the public sector's short-term commercial credits amounting to $500 million. Under the second point, a request is made to postpone the due date on $102 billion in short term credits to the public sector. The third point permits the postponement of payments on $300 million in private bank debts over a period beginning today and ending on 6 March 1984. The fourth point grants Peru an $880-million credit, with the assistance of the IMF.

DAILY RAPS 'UNILATERAL' INCREASE IN CANAL TOLLS

PY082232 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 20 Feb 83 p A2

[Editorial: "Panama Canal Tolls"]

[Text] Despite all Latin American complaint and appeals, U.S. President Ronald Reagan recently ratified the new tolls for Panama Canal services which the joint administrative commission of the canal has approved with a 9.8 percent increase.

Even though the new tolls, which will go into effect on 12 March, seemed to be equally beneficial for the interests of Panama and the United States, the final decision has given the general impression that the raise was unilateral.

Justly enough, the Latin American nations, among them Peru, based their request for a reconsideration on the fact that they had not been consulted prior to the approval of the new tolls. In keeping with the provisions of the Commission for Commercial Negotiations, Cecon, of the OAS, of which Panama and the United States are founding members.

When, racing against time, Luis Marchand, Peruvian ambassador to the OAS, and other people, brought the matter before the Cecon urging the U.S. chief executive to show some understanding toward Latin Ameirca's arguments, the U.S. representatives, Alberto M. Biedras, ratified the new tolls on behalf of the U.S. chief executive, and added that they could even be raised by as much as 13 percent instead of the 9.8 percent raise, which he believed too low.

With this attitude the United States has broken a very important inter-American accord for economic consultation and negotiation without having provided sufficient justification to show its partners affected by the raise that it was, indeed, a fair and balanced compensation for expenses incurred in the operation and maintenance of the canal.

In Peru's specific case, the new tolls will mean an additional expense of almost $7.5 million per year. In the same way, each member of the OAS -- to which both Panama and the United States belong with clearly established duties and obligations -- is now figuring out the loss of hard currency spent on the tolls. Meanwhile, what is to be the fate of inter-American consultation and negotiation accords which have been broken so many times?

TOWNSEND ACCLAIMED PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

PY100349 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 26 Feb 83 p 2

[Excerpts] Andres Townsend Ezcurra last night officially inaugurated a new political party based on the Aprist Grass Roots Movement, and stated in a party rally in front of the new headquarters of the movement, that this new party "is another option between the right on one side and communism and its allies on the other.

In a brotherhood day speech, which lasted a little more than 1/2 hour, he harshly criticized the APRA [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance], which he called "officialist," and publicly stated that the "leaders of the party headquartered on Alfonso Ugarte Avenue have mortgaged themselves to cooperating with a populist front in the manner of Salvador Allende of Chile."

On justifying the presence of the Aprist Grass Roots Movement in the political framework, he stated that we are not witnessing something that will become a personalist adventure but an act of civic recuperation with an established trend and behavior.

The crowd that attended the rally and occupied the whole area between Garcilaso de la Vega and George Washington Avenues along Bolivia Avenue, acclaimed Townsend as their candidate for the presidency of the republic for the elections to be held in 1985.

Francisco Diez Canseco, Alberto Borea and Gustavo Carranza spoke before Townsend. Carranza is the secretary general of the Laredo Workers' Union. Ana Ortiz' Andrea Vargas and Teodoro Quinonez also made speeches.

BRIEFS

CANADIAN OFFICIAL ARRIVES -- Canadian Deputy Minister of State for External Relations (Richard Gorgan) has arrived in Lima to discuss trade relations. He reported that trade between Peru and Canada amounts to $120 million. [Lima Radio Union in Spanish 1130 GMT 2 Mar 83 PY]

SPAIN INTERESTED IN PROJECTS -- Lima, 14 Feb (AFP) -- Spanish Ambassador Pedro Bermejo announced today that his country is interested in participating in the Chavimochic hydroelectric project in La Libertad, north of Lima, which will cost $600 million, and the Olmos hydroelectric project in Lambayeque, worth $1,500 million. He also disclosed that his country is interested in submitting a bid for the construction of an electric railway system on the outskirts of Lima which will link the northern and southern limits of the city. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0442 GMT 15 Feb 83 PY]

GOVERNOR ORDERS ARREST OF MAGAZINE DIRECTORS

PA090100 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text of decree issued by Caracas Governor Rodolfo Jose Cardenas on 8 March 1983 -- read by Oswaldo Bravo, secretary general of government of the Caracas Federal District]

[Text] Rodolfo Jose Cardenas, governor of the federal district, exercising the powers vested in him by Section 6 of Article 13 of the organic law of the federal district, considering:

That the publications RESUMEN, AUTENTICO and ZETA have grievously besmirched the image of Liberator Simon Bolivar and offended the dignity and decorum of the president of the republic, who is the foremost civilian and political authority of the federal district, and of the Armed Forces in their issues of 13 March 1983, No 288 of the week of 5-11 March 1983 and No 460 of 27 February 1983, respectively, which issues are circulating in this jurisdiction;

That it is the duty of the governor of the federal district as the authority following the president of the republic in all matters concerning civil and political order to watch over the preservation of public order, morals and decency, with powers to suppress all attempted or actual violations thereof through arrest and without prejudice to prosecuting offenders in court, resolves:

Article 1. Citizens Jorge Olavarria, Amable Rosales and Rafael Poleo, directors of the magazines RESUMEN, AUTENTICO and ZETA, respectively, are hereby ordered arrested and jailed for 15 days. The mentioned citizens will serve their sentences in zone 2 of the general headquarters of the metropolitan police, in the jurisdiction of Sucre Parish, federal district.

Article 2. The general commander of the metropolitan police of the federal district and Sucre district of Miranda State will watch over compliance with this decree.

COPEI LEADER PROPOSES ECONOMIC SOLUTIONS

PA090325 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Luis Herrera Escalante report]

[Text] Eduardo Fernandez, secretary general of the Social Christian Party, COPEI, has described the salary increase granted to [name indistinct] president of the Venezuelan Central Bank, as untimely.

Fernandez made the statement following a meeting at La Casona with President Luis Herrera Campins, at which Godofredo Gonzalez and Jose Antonio Perez Diaz were also present. When asked for his opinion about the impact of the recent economic measures, he said:

[Begin Fernandez recording] We Venezuelans are faced with the unquestionably troubled times for internal and external reasons. We must face them within a climate of vast national understanding, dignity and nobility if we are to solve them. We have proposed a complete program and a set of initiatives that may lead to their solution.

First of all, in addition to the policy on exchange control we must restrict imports and adopt a policy aimed at guaranteeing success in the refinancing of the debt, in order to stop the foreign exchange drain. We also have to encourage internal production by bolstering the financing system and lowering interest rates. There is an important statement by the National Banking Association in this connection. Also, we should improve liquidity through the rediscount mechanism, orienting economic resources toward activities that are really important in the strategy to reactivate the economy, such as the case of the construction industry.

We have been insisting seriously on these proposals. There are legislative measures that can very helpful in this regard and they should be adopted with the support of all political factions represented in Congress.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] No, I think this involves the use of the entire savings system to stimulate production and thus generate more wealth and more jobs and make money circulate. [end recording]

This statement by COPEI Secretary General Eduardo Fernandez was made following a meeting with President Luis Herrera Campins at La Casona, which was also attended by Godofredo Gonzalez and Jose Antonio Perez Diaz.

It is worth noting, that the COPEI National Commission's traditional Tuesday meeting with the president was not held today.

MONGE TEMPORARILY POSTPONES SCHEDULED VISIT

PA091600 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge has postponed his trip to Panama, which should have started tomorrow, Wednesday. The program of Monge's trip to Panama included a visit to this capital for a meeting with President Ricardo de la Espriella. Afterwards he was to travel to David, where 1 day has been dedicated to Costa Rica during an industrial fair being held there. An official Costa Rican spokesman said the postponement is temporary, due to the attention being given by the two nations to Pope John Paul II. He added that the visit will take place weeks after the holy father's tour ends.

PAREDES URGES LEGISLATORS NOT TO DEMONSTRATE

PA092103 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] General Ruben Dario Paredes, commander in chief of the Panama National Guard, today asked Alfonso Sotero, president of the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives, to assure that the people's power members do not demonstrate against the constitutional reforms Friday. Paredes added that he was just thinking out loud when he said he believed in the future possibility of forming a national unity government composed of all the political parties and other organizations. Here is his statement:

[Begin recording] [Paredes, in progress] ...the need for a series of reforms or constitutional adjustments that [changes thought] it is well to repeat this, because I have learned that a large sector of the people do not know this: There is a commission that has been working since then -- it has been working almost months -- on the constitutional reform that will be presented to the president at the end of this month. He will submit the reform to the referendum after national dissemination and discussion. Our opinion here remains the same, to give you a direct answer.

We believe with the same assurance and conviction as on 31 July that the constitutional reform -- principally Article 2, which contemplates the participation of the Armed Forces as a fourth branch of government, that is, that exercises power with the same authority, at the same level as the executive, legislative and judicial branches. [sentence as heard] We believe that civilization, today's world, does not accept a constitution with the armed forces inserted in this ostentatious manner, as they are today. We members of the National Gurad believe in the term "Armed Forces" as in coordination with the other three branches of the state.

We continue to to believe in this change and adjustment of the Constitution. We believe that a great job is being done in the reviewing commission. We think that when the time comes to disseminate and discuss at a national level, the people will be more interested in this subject, as well as that the plebiscite will end with an overwhelming and majority yes.

I would like to take this occasion to ask you in a very civil manner, the president of the assembly, the Honorable Alfonso, to desist from holding the demonstration planned for the day after tomorrow, 11 March, in which the 505 of the people's power are making an effort to prevent the constitutional reforms or adjustments. The attitude of the assembly president and the 505 honorable representatives is not condemnable. [as heard] It is a defensive attitude for what they consider a gain that they should not lose. It is a way to look at things mistakenly, but with sincerity.

I would say to the president of the assembly and to all its members to desist from this demonstration that contributes nothing to the peace that all Panamanians are experiencing today.

[Question] Since you support the constitutional reforms, how do we interpret this demonstration next Friday? Do you consider this demonstration to be an anti-Paredes campaign, and by desisting from holding it, are we cancelling the sentiment of the People's Power of being against the constitutional reforms?

[Paredes] Look, I do not believe that this demonstration or this clamor of rejection of the constitutional reforms is anything against General Paredes or against the president of the republic or against the Armed Forces, which were the promoters of the review of the constitution. I do believe firmly that it is a matter of a healthy attitude on their part, an attitude in which they try to preserve what they call popular gains through the 505. Sincerely, it is not that we regret the birth of the system of corregimiento representatives, that is, the 505, but practice, exercise and implementation of the system along the way have been demonstrated little effectiveness, or inefficiency which, if we are intelligent, we must proceed to correct along the way or on the path of the republic.

Ten years have passed. If you see a mistake or shortcoming that hits you in the face with truth every day during these 10 years, it would be a grave mistake to turn your back on this reality. It would be lack of consideration for the people, for these 2 million inhabitants, for the Republic of Panama. We are also providing a handle or making roon for alternating power in the future, because power is alternated in the democratic game. Other governments that are not similar to the present one could completely decapitate, the way the constitution is today, and in this action we would lose the good things that this Constitution has with the reforms that are being made to it. [sentence as heard]

I believe, Miller [interviewer], finally, in answer to your question, that the people's power is not losing a great deal. It is losing part of what they call gains. I believe we are improving the people's power, that is, the assembly of the 50's. In the corregimientos this will continue but it will have a different shape, an efficient shape, a truly communitarian shape, a shape without immunities that have been hurting some. We have had cases of immunities and there have been rapes of ladies that have gone unpunished. We have had cases of loss of public funds, or from community boards, and these situations have also gone unpunished. These immunities should disappear with these amendments to the Constitution. [end recording]

General Paredes added that in talks with the president of the republic and the General Staff, and in what he considered was thinking out loud, he believed in the need to establish a national unity government composed of representatives from all the political parties and similar organizations. Due to the importance of the national guard commander in chief's statements, we invite you to tune to our station at 1800 for our telenews newscast, on which we will broadcast his complete statements.

Paredes News Conference

PA100247 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Excerpts] National Guard Commander in Chief General Ruben Dario Paredes today faced the demonstration threat posed by corregimiento representatives at a news conference regarding constitutional reforms. He said:

[Begin recording] With regard to the constitutional reforms, principally the one on Article 2 -- which contemplates the participation of the Armed Forces as a fourth branch of government, that is, that exercises power with the same authority, at the same level as the executive, legislative and judicial branches -- we believe with the same assurance and conviction as on 31 July that civilization, today's world, does not accept a constitution with the Armed Forces inserted in this ostentatious manner, as they are today. We members of the National Guard believe that the term "the Armed Forces in coordination with the other three branches of the state" must disappear.

On the other hand, and in line with the national Constitution, we believe it is necessary and urgent that all legislators of this republic -- if we are really going to move toward a pure democracy -- must be elected by direct voting; that is, that the people should elect all their legislators, absolutely all, without exception.

We also believe that 6 years could be too long a period for a president of the republic. We think that 5 years would be a good period, and that 4 years would be too short.

After seriously studying the Constitution, the Armed Forces believes that Article 140 -- the one that allows for constitutioanl reforms, although through somewhat lengthy methods that would take almost 8 years to implement -- should be reformed so that when the Panamanian Constitution requires ammentments we will not have to face what we are facing today, which is a long road. It looks like Article 140 makes reforms too difficult. The article exists in order to make any constitutional reform practically impossible. If a generation finds it necessary to ammend the constitution and it has to wait 8 years, this means it is necessary that 8 years go by before the ammendment appears in the Constitution. By then, perhaps a positive result will not come out of the ammendment because it would come too late for a large protion of the present generation. [end recording]

Expanding on how, in his opinion, the corregimiento representatives should operate, the National Guard commander in chief said:

[Begin recording] However, the 505 would become, in the provinces, provincial councils, where they would hold provincial assemblies and be entitled to choose, through an internal democratic system, the provincial president. This provincial president would have the right to attend the general state councils over which the president -- the executive -- presides in the capital. This provincial president would also have the right to present bills, or drafts of bills, that the people of his province believe are necessary for the well-being of that particular Panamanian community.

The assembly of legislators would definitely have to be one chosen by the people through direct popular votes. This is the only way that a Panamanian will become legislator: through direct popular voting. [end recording]

Although General Paredes did not justify the attitude of the representatives, he explained it by saying:

[Begin recording] It is a very sincere attitude. What the 505 assembly is fighting for, or fighting in order not to lose, is the inclusion of several corregimiento representatives in the legislation council, which is the current situation. Right now, four are chosen. These are the ones called "The ones selected inside the Corregimiento Assembly." The other two are elected by direct popular votes. This is the way it works in all the provinces. They are fighting in order not to lose this, which they call an achievement. I respectfully call it a mistake. It is a mistake and for years efforts have been made to correct it, but no decision had been made because this suited the nation, but we are continuously talking about improving the country's democratic system.

We have been repeating this truth: We want to improve Panama's democracy. Therefore, if we leave things as they are, if we leave a legislative body that has not been elected by the people, we would be lying or playing with words. In choosing their legislators by direct popular voting, the communities will not lose any of their achievements such as health centers, communal juntas or their communication with their corregimiento representatives because the representative will report their needs to this provincial council, I am talking to you about, which is something new that will appear in the Constitution. They elect a president among themselves and this man has the authority to go to the executive and present the most important needs of his province. This works for all the provinces. [end recording]

General Paredes today referred to military candidates by pointing out his civil and democratic vocation and that if some civilians [candidates] had the laurels he has, many citizens would have to leave the country. Here is what he said about his own candidacy:

[Begin recording] Much is being said, especially by the opposition parties, about a military candidacy, and this is being said as if rejecting it, as if repudiating it, as if something inadequate and undesirable were being discussed. In the next elections all the candidates will be civilian. There will be no military candidate. In the next elections, anyone running as a candidate will be civilian. No one will be a military man.

Regarding this subject, many of these gentlemen of the opposition speak of a military candidate in reference to me. Some of them have even said it openly using my first and last name. I don't regret my origin. I am a professional who still wears a uniform. Some day my career will come to an end. The fact that one wears a uniform does not mean that one is less human. I think that the people should pass judgement more on the basis on what one has done, on one's record, than on the basis of a uniform.

I insist, Miss Fuentes, that there are men who wear uniforms and are called military men but who have a more civil disposition than some people who wear civilian clothes but who have more of a military disposition than we do. Look: There are at least four Panamanians who have aspirations to lead this fatherland, and if they were to have these laurels and 11,000 men under their command, I think the republic would be upside down overnight. This is probably what would occur. There would be many people running everywhere after a week of this.

However, the National Guard is propitiating a real transferral of this power. If this power falls at any given moment in the power of arms, this is not just any armed force [sentence as heard]. Take a look at the recent visit of the holy pope. Compare the attitude of this Army with the attitude of neighbor armies of countries the pope visited. They are completely different armed forces.

Before touching on that alliance -- it's the first time I've heard of it -- I conclude by saying: We in the Armed Forces are not militarists. We are military men with a civil, democratic, disposition. The militarists are those who want to exercise power throughout their career, throughout their lives, with a uniform. They want successions from military men to other military men. This is what had been happening in El Salvador. That is a militarist tendency. That is not our tendency.

Our true inclination is to return real power to constitutional and civilian sectors, to be where we were before 1968 when the Panamanians of that generation, of those days, lost faith because their leaders did not fill basic requirements. The people themselves propitiated the changes. Today faced with other days, we believe that the time has come to return this power to where it should be, where it belongs: with the civilians. We have a civic disposition; let it return.

Regarding Dr Arias, we have never talked about alliances, or about seeking the presidency together in the coming elections. We have discussed other subjects with Dr Arias. They all involve matters of national interest, nothing about personal or party interests. [end recording]

Regarding his retirement and to the letter with an open dateline that the president has in order to make Paredes' retirement effective, General Paredes said:

[Begin recording] It is true. The president of the republic and the staff have a letter of resignation that I signed with an open dateline. When I prepared this letter and presented my resignation several months ago, 6 or 7 months ago, the staff and the president did not accept it.

We all know what happened, but the letter remains. I will be at the head of the Armed Forces as long as the president and the staff so decide and want. If they believe that for the good of the community and the fatherland I should go on retirement tomorrow, next week, next month, next year, I would obey that as a constitutional mandate. This is how I feel about it and this is how I expressed it when I presented the letter.

Regarding the situation of disarray in national affairs, as is the case of the Social Security Fund, for instance -- and afterwards we talked a bit about the political parties -- the disaster at the Social Security Fund was a real fact. It is also true that several Panamanians, who I think included a lady, were summoned to answer charges.

These gentlemen were under arrest for months but have taken shelter under our laws and are now free. However, justice is running its course. I do feel, however, that the time has come for us to reinforce our penal codes so that after commiting such abuses or stealing public property -- the people's property, the people's savings -- in the amounts that have been mentioned, no individual, and in this case no Panamanian, will be able to go free so easily and rapidly. I want you to accept and believe that they are within the legal framework. Therefore, what is failing us, and what we apparently must reinforce very soon, is our penal code. We must make it a little more stringent, more constructive.

Regarding the political parties, you will remember that when the quota of 30,000 followers was set, when the call for democratization was made, when all media -- be they of the opposition or the government -- were opened, when the political rights of all Panamanians and all parties were restored and the quota of 30,000 followers was set, there was much public discussion and it was said that this was an extremely high quota to register a political party and that only two, three or four parties would be registered. Some names were even mentioned. Now the figure of 30,000 followers does not seem too difficult to reach and we now have eight parties, which I think is the number of registered ones. We will possibly end up with 12 before the elections, because I have been hearing about two parties that hope to become registered.

After establishing this rule of 30,000 followers, we cannot change it now and say that 30,000 is too easy a limit and we should raise it to 50,000 or 100,000. Nevertheless, and be it as it may, what is important and lies at the bottom of the creation of the political parties is the democratic game. It is the one we Panamanians are familiar with and accustomed to accepting and playing through these parties. There is no other way. Any other way would stray somewhat from our democratic tradition.

Therefore, what is important is the manner in which these parties may behave, how Panamanians will participate during the year and several months still remaining, so we will not wear ourselves out, no politicking will develop and the fatherland will not bleed dry. This is what is important. The political game has to take place through the political parties and I see no other alternative in this regard. [end recording]

On the possible trip to Washington being postponed:

[Begin recording] [Question] Did you call off your trip to Washington?

[Paredes] Yes... no, I postponed it. I postponed it, because I unexpectedly developed thrombophletitis and was hospitalized 8 days. The trip was scheduled for the 27th, and the doctors signed at that moment a document addressed to the General Staff indicating that the trip should be postponed under doctor's orders. We reported the fact to [U.S. Southern Command Commander] General Nutting, who was the channel of communication with the Pentagon, General Meyer, and they received the excuse. We are considering a new date at this moment. It has been postponed. [end recording]

On 31 July, the National Guard commander and its General Staff announced a number of rectifications that should be undertaken immediately. In this regard, Paredes responded as follows:

[Begin recording] It is true that the rectifications that were announced on 31 July have not advanced at the desired speed. However, progress, although slow, has been made. Please remember that the rectifications -- and I wish to believe that the ones you refer to -- include the amendments to the Constitution, the adjustments to and revision of the labor code and the housing law. Other rectifications were carried out immediately, such as the replacement of the comptroller general, the attorney general and the partial, although substantial, shuffling of the cabinet. The individuals who were involved in the social security problem were jailed, so to speak, and placed at the disposal of the authorities. However, what has happened?

The most sensitive of all issues we have mentioned is the amendments to the Constitution. We had to attach priority to the constitutional reform because it is like a big matrix from which the remaining things derive. With a constitutional reform accomplished, guaranteed and made official by the popular referendum, accepted as such and inserted in the new Constitution, we would then indeed be able to confront the other rectifications and give expression to them as announced, such as those of the labor code and the revision of the housing law. However, if we had set about to do all these things simultaneously, we would have involuntarily introduced disorder in our republic. We would have altered public order, social tranquillity and equilibrium required for our republic to operate within the dynamics of production, work and so forth. Therefore, we think we have been prudent by working in stages.

We feel very optimistic because we are finishing the work on the first one. On the reform of the Constitution. However, the two other reforms, that is, the two other rectifications, will follow immediately thereafter and they will be carried out in a very serious manner with the affected parties' participation. For instance, employers, trade unions and workers will participate in those of the labor code, as well as other persons regarded as useful and beneficial for this purpose, so they may contribute, and so the adjustment will be carried out without traumas, confrontations or violence and with positive results for the national economy. [end recording]

Speaking about talks he and his General Staff have held with the president regarding forming a national unity or national accord government, General Paredes said:

[Begin recording] We have talked in very good terms with the president twice in less than 15 days. The General Staff and I have told the president that it would be advisable and healthy at this stage, or not too far from this moment, to evaluate the idea of establishing or forming at his convenience, let us say, a government of great national unity, a government reflecting a national agreement. However, what does this national agreement mean? It would mean reaching agreement among all Panamanians of all tendencies, of all groups registered in parties, of all the country's civic forces which are not necessarily affiliated to any party, because there are many Panamanians who are not affiliated with any party, and many will go on to the end. However, they have weight and value and must be taken into account. For example, through this national agreement we would confront the problem of the economy. For example, what is happening to our nation's economy? How can we resolve the national economic problem amid a changing and overwhelming situation that originates mostly from abroad, and the very distorted economy and the world recession that are affecting us?

What changes must be made in the structure on which our economy has traditionally operated during more tranquil times? What must be done during these turbulent times? How can we tackle the problem of agriculture? What is happening in the agricultural and livestock sector? How can we make this country's agricultural and livestock production more dynamic? Why do we have so much rice in storage? Why are onions and potatoes rotting? Why are there fewer farmers now? Where are they going? Could they be in the cities? We must look into all of these things.

The educational system for our new generations has become stagnant following the educational reform and the demonstrations and confrontations with the Education Ministry and the government that involved many people. Do you remember? However, things remained as they were and there was no solution and we are educating young people and children who will carry full responsibility for the republic in the future, and I feel -- and I say so very respectfully -- in an inadequate or less efficient manner than before. Our young people are being educated in a less efficient manner. The training of today's Panamanians, of today's young students, is less efficient.

We must look in the same manner at other fields that have an impact on our republican life within this great national accord. We only had a talk with the president. He took it as a good conversation and nothing else. We also told him during one of the two occasions we talked with him that apparently, unfortunately, political activities through these parties which, as Luz Maria Noli [Televisora Nacional newswoman] has said, are turning out to be too many -- I hope they will not grow or not too many new ones will crop up.

It seems that in the remaining 1 and 1/2 years we may enter a very disagreeable stage of attrition in which politicking, rather than lofty politics, may reign. Politicking divides the Panamanian family. Politicking contributes to violence. Politicking makes the economy lose momentum. Industry, commerce and agriculture lose their dynamics.

Inadequate political procedures, which we unfortunately see sometimes and are seeing right now, tend to discredit gentlemen, men, ladies, young ladies and young people. We would not like this to happen, but it seems that we will have to go per force through that dark tunnel and I hope we will all come out of it on the other side on our feet, without a single casualty and with nothing to regret.

However, if we go through that dark tunnel with this great national unity -- which is just an idea, a thinking out loud, gentlemen newsmen -- and do not wear ourselves out, with the economy as it is now, in a difficult state but not in a crisis, and the country as it is, quite harmonious, and if we emerge with our commitment to hold elections, good for us.

However, I hope that along the way nothing will happen like the time when, for example, before 1968, very close to here, near the former young women's school, Sergeant Chiari was found dead one day at dawn while he was accompanying a presidential candidate whose last name I am not going to mention. He was found dead at dawn. Other deaths of civilians took place at that time and things were unpleasant then. We wouldn't want this to return. This was our talk with the president. We told him that perhaps this reality, or possibility, would fade away if we have a government of national accord, for the rest of this period, involving the participation of most parties. [end recording]

REPRESENTATIVES CALL OFF 11 MARCH RALLY

PA100121 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] The corregimiento representatives today called off their main mobilization to defend the 1972 Constitution and the current legislative system. The march that had been scheduled for Friday, 11 March, will not be staged. This was announced this afternoon by Lorenzo Sotero Alfonso, [as heard] president of the Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives.

In statements to the media and to assembly employees, Sotero Alfonso [as heard] explained the reasons that led to the decision to suspend the demonstration in defense of people's power:

[Begin Sotero Alfonso (as heard) recording] When we heard General Paredes ask publicly for the suspension of the rally at Santa Ana Park, which was already well organized by us, we [word indistinct] at this moment, which is very difficult because the Penonome Declaration calls for holding the rally.... However, today, on the basis of a call which we strongly feel is a call in good faith for the sake of the country's peace and calm, we will suspend the rally that had been scheduled for Santa Ana on 11 March.

This is a proper time to tell General Paredes that we know he is a pillar of the Panamanian revolutionary process; that on one occasion -- 31 July -- the Panamanian people and these popular organizations gave him a vote of confidence to appoint a new Cabinet [as heard]. [end recording]

The assembly president also announced that the organizations that were supporting the representatives' abortive plan to hold the rally on Friday will meet later to analyze the developments that have motivated the suspension of their march to Santa Ana Park.

PAREDES CONGRATULATES MCGRATH ON POPE'S VISIT

PA082300 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Mar 83

[Note sent by Brigadier General Ruben Dario Paredes, commander in chief of the Panama National Guard, to Msgr Marcos Gregorio McGrath, archbishop of Panama; no date given -- read by announcer]

[Text] Your Excellency, Most Reverend Msgr Marcos Gregorio McGrath, archbishop of Panama:

In the name of the Panamanian Armed Forces, we wish to express to you, and through you, as a worthy coduit, to our Catholic Church, the satisfaction that we obtained from the genuine, warm welcome that the Panamanian people tendered to His Holiness John Paul II during his recent visit to our country.

Our fervent Christian spirit, the framework for the visit of the pilgram pope, demonstrated that in every child of this land there lives a piece of Christ that acts as the basis for the preservation of dialogue and coexistence, which all the peoples of the world know to be characteristic of us.

This very important visit must be a stimulus for Panamanians to reflect deeply on the destiny of the homeland, particularly those of us who are primarily responsible for the country's social and political guidance. The Panamanian people, in offering their harmony to the great pastor of the Catholic Church, are aware that those who provide the nation's political and social alternatives must attribute due significance to that fervent expression and, consequently, create conditions of change to respond to the basic needs and conserve the peace that our people so zealously cherish and guard. The national family has reiterated once again its firm conviction that no one has the right to destroy the concord that has been gained and deserved as a divine gift. What God has created, let no man destroy.

We congratulate the organizing committee of that historic and unforgettable visit and the Panamanian people, the main participants, who rendered the homage that the successor of Peter deserves from all the men and women of this land of good will.

Yours truly, everything for the fatherland,

[Signed] Brigadier General Ruben Dario Paredes, commander in chief of the National Guard.

BELIZE

POPE JOHN PAUL II VISITS CAPITAL 9 MARCH

Met by Price

FL091445 [Editorial Report] Belize City Domestic Service in English/Spanish at 1400 GMT on 9 March carries live coverage of the arrival of Pope John Paul II in Belize City from Belize International Airport. At 1400 GMT the announcers report that the pope's Boeing 737 jet has made a safe landing and the pope is in Belize. Thousands of spectators are reported to be around the airport apron awaiting the pope's exit from the plane.

The announcers then report that the apostolic nuncio, Belize's chief of protocol, Mr Castillo and Prime Minister George Price are walking up to the plane to greet the pope. Shortly thereafter, Belize's national anthem is played. The pope announcers report, moves to a receiving line of dignitaries, government officials and local religious leaders. The pope then takes a vehicle to another part of the terminal where throngs of people are described to be joyously clapping, shouting welcome and waving banners, flags and placards. At this point he moves to the altar to celebrate the papal mass.

Celebrates Mass

PA091513 [Editorial Report] Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish at 1421 GMT on 9 March broadcasts the mass performed by the pope in Belize City. Speaking in English, Pope John Paul II greets the congregation, expressing his pleasure at being in Belize. He reiterates Jesus' call for eternal commitment. The pontiff then goes on to say that he has previously called for unity in Central America and that he wants to discuss unity of a different sort; unity among Christians, which is one of the major missions of his papacy. The pope continues to speak on the true meaning of the ecumenical movement saying that it is not compatible with aggressive proselytism. The pope ends his homily after which he pronounces a 2-minute greeting in Spanish to the Mexican bishops and other Spanish-speaking people in the congregation. The mass then continues.

Concludes Visit

FL091641 Bridgetown CANA in English 1619 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Belize City, March 9, CANA-REUTER -- Pope John Paul II left Belize today for neighbouring Guatemala where he will change planes to fly to Haiti. His special flight departed from Belize City's international airport at 0959 (1559 GMT).

EL SALVADOR

PRESIDENT MAGANA INTERVIEWED ON CURRENT ISSUES

PA091658 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1300 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Interview with Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana by Raul Beltran Bonilla on 9 March; place not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] [Question] We will have a brief talk with President Alvaro Magana this morning. Here is our first question: What is your government's opinion and what will be benefits for El Salvador as a result of Pope John Paul II's visit to our country?

[Answer] I said in my message to the Salvadoran people after the pope had left our country on Sunday that I was very impressed and proud to be a Salvadoran in view of the reception given the pope and the manner in which the Salvadoran people demonstrated their religious faith. I think that the message of peace he brought to us -- as I said in my welcoming speech on his arrival -- is a fortunate coincidence with my government's efforts to develop a peace program that will enable the country to get back to normalcy and tranquillity. In this sense, I am sure that all Salvadorans have been touched by his message of hope; and this should be the beginning of a new era in which we will return to spirituality and fundamental moral values, on which we received a very important message from the pope.

[Question] Mr President, we will now go on to other subjects that are vital for your government and for the Salvadoran people. Do you have any specific report or anything to say regarding the situation of the economic and military aid for El Salvador from the U.S. Government?

[Answer] Yes, today we learned that the U.S. Congress has approved in principle special military aid and an increase in additional economic aid. This is highly satisfactory for us, since we have been able to confront these difficult days in our history thanks to the help we have received from the United States, both in the military and economic fields. Therefore, I have always expressed my appreciation to the United States for this help.

[Question] Mr President, what are your comments regarding the current internal situation in El Salvador?

[Answer] Perhaps the most important element is the announcement I made when I welcomed the pope to El Salvador. At that time I announced my government's decision to have elections before the end of 1983. In this sense, I made the official announcement, and today, the Political Commission -- which as you know is made up by the three majority parties and one minority party of the Constituent Assembly, the defense minister and myself -- will issue a declaration on plans for holding elections this year and the reasoning for this. The commission will explain the need for a political solution and the need to accelerate the democratic process in our country in order to achieve the peace that all Salvadorans want.

[Question] On the subject of the electoral process announced by the government on the arrival of Pope John Paul II last Sunday, President Magana, we would like to know if the Political Commission that you head, in addition to setting elections in the near future, has considered the participation of the various democratic forces in the country and the various political forces in the electoral process?

[Answer] Yes. The Political Commission presented the peace program to the Salvadoran people during the last week of February. We expressed this intention in the program, and we made the Peace Commission, which was installed on 28 February, responsible for doing everything possible to get the participation of all political sectors in the democratic process. That process will end with the elections which -- as I said on Sunday — must be held before 31 December 1983.

[Question] President Magana, our last question: In your opinion, what were your administration's most important achievements during your 10 months in government? In addition, do you think that relations between the government and the church improved significantly in these 10 months?

[Answer] Well, you have mentioned what is probably one of the most important achievements -- maintaining cordial, close relations with the Catholic Church from the very beginning of my term.

On the other hand, we have achieved reasonable political stability, and although some sectors received the idea of a national unity government with justified great skepticism, I think this stability has functioned reasonably well and the superficial differences that have emerged are not too serious.

In addition, I think that with great effort and sacrifice the Salvadoran people have managed to reverse the decline in our economy, have maintained reasonable inflation levels, and have created the necessary conditions of security and tranquillity that will permit reactivation of the business sector. This will enable us to begin an economic recovery in 1983, which I hope will continue with our next government.

A stable, permanent government will pull the country forward during the next presidential term. My responsibility -- in view of the provisional status of my government -- is limited to establishing the basis for economic and moral recovery, through our future government and to concluding the democratic process with election of a new government in early 1984.

[Question] According to statistics, Mr President, your economic efforts have helped achieve stability and reduce inflation. Is it true that inflation has dropped from 18 to 11 percent during your administration?

[Answer] Yes, the information you just gave is correct. I announced this in my speech during the installation of the Committee for Economic Recovery in December last year. We are very satisfied, because we managed to reduce inflation and reverse the upward trend completely, which is an advancement. Naturally, I must admit that this was possible only with great sacrifice from the Salvadoran people, who have been very patient with my administration at all times, and instead of becoming discouraged or frustrated, have maintained their faith in the government. I do hope that in 1983 we will experience the return to a different society, in which we will live from 1984 on.

FOREIGN MINISTER SAYS AMNESTY PLANNED FOR AUGUST

PA091338 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1251 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] New Delhi, 9 Mar (LATIN-REUTER) -- El Salvador announced today that it will declare a general amnesty in August to pave the way for national elections scheduled for December. Deputy Foreign Minister Alejandro Gomez Vides told LATIN-REUTER in an interview that a peace commission will be created to find a way of getting the guerrillas to participate in the elections.

Gomez Vides, who heads the Salvadoran delegation of observers to the Nonaligned Summit, said that the commission will be composed of church, labor and human rights representatives. He added: "We cannot negotiate with terrorists."

The elections, which were previously scheduled for March 1984, were advanced recently by the government supported by the United States as an apparent concession to Pope John Paul II who visited El Salvador on Sunday.

Gomez Vides complained that the Nonaligned Conference was drafting a resolution on El Salvador without the participation of his government. "The delegates here do not want to hear our viewpoint," he said. He defended his government's right to request economic and military assistance from the United States to combat the leftwing guerrillas. More than 35,000 persons, mostly civilians, have been killed in the 3-year civil war in El Salvador.

Conference sources said that among the Latin American delegations there is consensus that the summit should call for a negotiated political solution in El Salvador.

Gomez Vides accused Nicaragua of regularly supplying equipment dropped by parachutes to the Salvadoran guerrillas. "The problem is that we cannot stop these aircraft, because we do not have radar," he said. "In the past 2 years we have made unsuccessful requests to the United States for radar," he said. He affirmed that "if the guerrillas had no Cuban and Nicaraguan aid," we could wipe them out in one month."

Gomez Vides said that El Salvador needs $600 million annually for the next 3 years to assist in resolving its balance of payment problem. El Salvador had a negative growth rate last year due to the guerrilla attacks against economic objectives and the price drop of coffee, the country's main source of income. Gomez Vides said that they will require military assistance to counter the arms and ammunition that Nicaragua and Cuba supply to the guerrillas who are seeking to overthrow his government.

HAVANA CITES FMLN ON 'EXTERMINATION OPERATIONS'

PA081423 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Mar 83

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan sent a message to the head of the Salvadoran regime, Alvaro Magana, in which he supports Magana's decision to call elections. The FMLN and Democratic Revolutionary Front, FDR, say that only prior negotiations that end the war, achieving peace and security for the Salvadoran people, will give positive meaning to the elections in that country.

Political observers recall that the United States excludes the Salvadoran guerrilla movement from any dialogue and encourages more military aid to the genocidal regime of this Central American country.

Ronald Reagan's message to Magana does not mention the concern expressed by the U.S. Congress and media because Washington is committing itself in El Salvador as it did in Vietnam.

The FMLN General Command has charged that today the regime's army will start a series of extermination operations against the civilians living in the area of Guazapa hill, some 35 km from San Salvador. The FMLN stressed that these new civilian massacres are desperate actions by the regime, in view of the overwhelming defeats that military units have recently suffered in Guazapa, Chalatenango and Morazan.

RADIO VENCEREMOS REPORTS ON FMLN ACTIVITIES

Atlacatl Accused of Massacre

PA081506 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] We have received information from Guazapa regarding another massacre of 124 peasants carried out by the murderous Atlacatl Battalion. On 23 and 25 February the Atlacatl Battalion massacred 36 people in (Irandilla) and Zapote, both in Cuscatlan Department. On the Quezalapa River, between Guadalupe and Tenango in Cuscatlan Department, they massacred 60 people. In the village of San Antonio, also in Cuscatlan Department, they murdered 24 people, and in (Manjales), San Salvador Department, 4 people were murdered; 3 women and child were raped. All 124 massacred people were women, old people and children; they were murdered by the Atlacatl Battalion lead by the genocidal Domingo Monterrosa. This is the pacification that is being promoted by the genocidal dictatorship.

Commanders Interviewed

PA092005 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Interview with Commanders Jorge Melendez and Claudio Rabindranath Armijo of El Salvador's FMLN; in Osicala; no date given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Commander Melendez, we have said that the victories obtained in Morazan in these first days of March have been the biggest victories obtained by the FMLN over the dictatorship. What is your opinion about the importance of these victories?

[Melendez] They are among the most important victories because we confronted the dictatorship's special battalions. We proved once again that our capacity is superior to that of the enemy's special battalions, which in the end are the dictatorship's sole support.

These victories are also important because hundreds of our militiamen engaged in combat, men who only recently joined the revolutionary struggle with weapon in hand, who have demonstrated in practice that they can defeat the dictatorship's supposedly best troops.

These victories are also important to us because they tell us specifically that the revolutionary victory is irreversible. We have again confirmed this because regardless of the enemy's intentions, we in the revolutionary forces always take the initiative.

Furthermore, these victories have completely disproved the dictatorship's assertion that our forces were defeated in the northeastern front.

Finally, the military victory itself is important. I think this would be (word indistinct].

[Question] We will now interrupt Commander Claudio Rabindranath Armijo, who is currently contacting various military units. Commander Armijo, during this campaign we at Radio Venceremos have stressed the effectiveness of our support weapons and maneuvers which, along with other elements, lead us to believe that our army has taken a qualitative leap. What could you tell us at this point concerning the development of our revolutionary army?

[Armijo] Well, in 2 years of war, our companeros and our chiefs have learned to fight. We are not only a mass of armed men, we are also disciplined and obedient men. We are using all kinds of infantry weapons and recently, with the blows dealt to the enemy, we have recovered weapons which have become part of our army's support weapons.

As for the tactics we now implement, our military units' use of firepower and movement in the course of big and small operations show that in these 2 years of fighting we have learned to fight; that we resort to our firepower, to movement and maneuver; and that these are the key elements that in recent months have allowed us to deal harsh blows to the enemy. These blows have allowed us to recover a large number of weapons, to inflict many casualties and to take many prisoners.

[Question] Commander Armijo, near Delicias de Concepcion our forces confronted the dictatorship's special battalions. How can all this that you've told us about our army's development be appreciated in the practice?

[Armijo] This can be appreciated when the two armies confront each other and when the one using its firepower and maneuver capacity comes out victorious as we have already said on several occasions, whoever has the greatest ability to maneuver comes out the winner. Certain things must be explained, however. For instance, in our case, due to the logistic limitations to which we are subjected, we have managed to develop in our army the capacity to maneuver through movement.

We have gained great advantage over the enemy. Due to its logistic facilities and the imperialist support that it receives, the enemy, on the contrary, resorts more to the use of weapons.

The disadvantage to the enemy is that through the mere use of firepower, they will not defeat us. One can inflict casualties by using the air force and mortars; one can exhaust the enemy, but never annihilate him. This situation also points to their low morale, because when they come to our combat areas, they resort more to maneuvers using their firepower. This is relatively easier than maneuvering through movement.

[Question] What is happening in Delicias de Concepcion?

[Armijo] Delicias de Concepcion is a fortified position, both internally and at the periphery. The strategic positions at the periphery have been seized and are guarded by the special troops.

[Question] Have these troops been trained by U.S. advisers?

[Armijo] Yes, they have been trained by U.S. advisers. They are one of the last battalions with which the gringos concluded the first phase of their plan for the preparation of special troops.

[Question] What happened there?

[Armijo] We resorted to our firepower. We put our .50-cal machineguns and our M-60's to work, as well as our RPG 2's. We also resorted to our maneuvers through movement. Our units moved about and gradually approached [words indistinct] the trenches, gained control over the enemy and annihilated him. We annihilated them and we obtained a great victory, the victory of having beaten the regime's special troops.

GUATEMALA

MISSING AID WORKERS REPORTED KILLED BY ARMY

PA091721 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1657 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 9 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Four officials of the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID), who were missing since last February, were killed by a military patrol that had detained them "when they tried to escape," it was reported officially today. A Guatemalan Army communique indicates that Patricio Ortiz Maldonado, head of the mission, and his three companions had been arrested by a military patrol in Huehuetenango Department in western Guatemala.

Maldonado was the chief of the AID mission in the education project in that region. He was accompanied by his assistant Abel Ortiz Jacinto, his pilot Obispo Santos and by Catarina Ortiz de Jacinto.

The military communique notes that the disappearance of these four persons was due to "a military action by an Army officer, who had information that the head of the mission, Patricio Ortiz, moved about especially on weekends from the capital city to Huehuetenango Department with the purpose of imparting military training to a group of subversives who operate in that region."

It adds that at the Selegua Bridge in Huehuetenango Department, the four persons tried to escape and were killed by the military patrol. The bodies fell into the river current.

The Guatemalan Army report notes that the commander of the military patrol has been remanded to the appropriate military court in order to "determine the responsibilities in this incident."

Previously, Defense Minister Gen Oscar Mejia Victores had explained how the incident occurred, but noted that after the military fired the shots, the night's darkness did not permit them to determine "if any of them had been wounded, because when they scouted the area they found nothing." Up to now there is no information on the whereabouts of of the bodies of the four.

Finally, the Guatemalan Army report notes that "it views this incident with concern," but "warns all citizens that this government action is designed to strengthen the proper application of the law and that the government will continue to act with the same rigor against all those who defy the law and disrupt order."

Text of Communique

PA092023 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 9 Mar 83 p 2

[Text of press communique No 024 issued by the Army's public relations office at 2030 on 8 March 1983]

[Text] The National Defense Ministry, after completing the necessary investigations, has established that Obispo Santos, Patricio Ortiz Maldonado, Abel Ortiz Jacinto and Catarina Ortiz de Jacinto are missing as the result of a military action by an Army officer. The officer had been informed that especially on weekends, Patricio Ortiz traveled to San Ildefonso Ixtahuacan, Huehuetenango Department, to provide military training to a group of subversives who operate in that region.

Patricio Ortiz Maldonado was a bilingual teacher at an entity operating under a contract with AID, a U.S. Embassy social agency. Ortiz Maldonado and those accompanying him were arrested in San Ildefonso, Ixtahuacan, on the road to Huehuetenango.

After they were arrested, they were killed by the military patrol at Selegua bridge while trying to escape, and their bodies fell into the river. The commander of the military patrol has been remanded to the appropriate military court in order to determine the responsibility for this incident. The national defense minister, aware of government regulations, views the incident with concern and confirms that if the officer who headed the patrol is found responsible for the incident, he will be severely punished according to the military code. The ministry also warns all citizens that this government action is designed to strengthen the proper application of the law and that the government will continue to act with the same rigor against all those who defy the law and disrupt order.

POPE CONCLUDES REGIONAL TOUR, LEAVES FOR HAITI

PA091733 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1711 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 9 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Pope John Paul II today concluded in Guatemala an 8-day visit to Central America, taking off from La Aurora Airport in the Alitalia Aircraft bound for Haiti. The pontiff was given an official farewell today by the Guatemalan authorities at 0630 (1230 GMT) and then boarded a Salvadoran Taca flight to visit Belize for 2 hours.

The Taca aircraft returned to the Guatemalan capital at 1035 (1635 GMT) and in only 15 minutes the holy father and his companions changed planes and boarded the Alitalia DC-10 which will take them to Haiti.

Address at Departure

PA091447 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1242 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Address delivered by Pope John Paul II on departing Guatemala, at La Aurora Airport -- live]

[Excerpt] I thank God for the time I have been able to spend among you encouraging reconciliation. My gratitude extends also with great sincereity to all those who have so cordially received me and have enthusiastically collaborated for the good results of this visit, especially the president fo this nation -- to whom I extend my deferential acknowledgement -- the authorities, the various institutions and so many other people. To all of them, my reiterated gratitude.

On leaving Guatemalan soil, I must raise my thoughts to the other Central American countries I have visited in recent days. So many memories flock to my mind in recalling the various stages of my trip in Honduras, El Salvador, Panama, Nicaragua and Costa Rica. These names are linked to those of Belize and Haiti, which I will visit today. They are the homelands of admirable peoples who want to preserve their secular Christian identity and live in climate of justice and peace. They are peoples whose suffering I have clearly perceived.

I could not bring them ready-made solutions to complex problems that go beyond the church's capacity. Nonetheless, I have approached these people with respect and affection, with a word that would tell the world about their silent and sometimes forgotten sufferings; with a word inviting a change of interior attitudes that would lead to the [word indistinct] of the path to peace with justice and dignity; with a word of encouragement and hope that might still revive (?those) hearts destroyed by sorrow and violence.

In saying goodbye and reiterating my affectionate blessing to each people and person in those countries, I ask the Almighty to stir new energies of good will; to finally stop the rumors of war; to move hearts along paths of justice; to bless those honestly working on behalf of goodness, all those helping those who suffer, those who receive and give a fraternal hand to the exiled and displaced, those who somehow, in a humane and Christian way, dry the pained face of the Central American man, which is the face of Christ. Thank you very much. [applause]

HONDURAS

FPR TAKES CREDIT FOR ATTACK ON CONSULATE 4 MAR

PA082006 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 7 Mar 83 p 2

[Text] The Lorenzo Zelaya People's Revolutionary Forces (FPR) have claimed credit for the attack on the Guatemalan consulate in Honduras on Friday, according to a statement that the guerrilla movement circulated in Tegucigalpa on Saturday.

The armed action against the consulate, called "Death to the Guatemalan military dictatorship," is an act to protest the Guatemalan Army's 3 March execution by firing squad of Honduran Marco Antonio Gonzalez.

The communique states that "the FPR is responding to the bestial policy of extermination that is being practiced against the Guatemalan people by the bloody pharisean jackal, Gen Efrain Rios Montt."

The FPR "vigorously condemns this vulgar murder because it takes place within the framework of the current visit being made by Pope John Paul II, head of the Catholic Church, to the Central American and Caribbean peoples."

NICARAGUA

FSLN LEADERSHIP'S COMMUNIQUE ON POPE'S VISIT

PA091617 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 9 Mar 83

[FSLN communique issued 8 March in Managua]

[Text] The FSLN national leadership, to the heroic people of Nicaragua and to the world:

At the conclusion of the papal visit to this area, which included our country, the FSLN national leadership considers it necessary to discuss the repercussions of the visit in view of the situation in Central America.

1. As he stated publicly, His Holiness John Paul II considered his pilgrimage of this part of the world to be of a pastoral and apostolic nature. Notwithstanding, it was unavoidable that his visit should have political significance, as it is impossible to refer to such matters as revolutionary violence, the peasant situation, the problem of the ethnic minorities, education, etc., without referring to their political nature. The proclamation of the unity of the church itself and the principle of the authority of its leaders in reality acquire political significance in view of the nature of Christian leadership in an area convulsed by political, social and even military struggles; in the face of which bishops, priests and laymen take up political positions for or against established systems.

2. The people of this area, in which there is a majority of the faithful, are undergoing a speedy process of transformation as result of the social and political dynamics they are experiencing. They realize that the visit of the pope had political repercussions. On his return to the Vatican, his message (?will undergo) a process of analysis and reflection. From his words issued here, some people will probably find elements to strengthen rightist and antipopular positions. Others may discover in them some light of hope for the cause of social justice for which they are fighting. In any case, there is expectation.

3. In his pilgrimages, the pope usually carries previously prepared messages, but his wisdom and his high moral responsibility to the world possibly keep his mind open to the possibility of enriching himself to the degree that he comes in contact with the reality of every place he visits. It is to be expected, then, that he is currently undergoing a process of analysis and reflection on the reality of poverty, suffering, hope, passion, struggle and aspirations for peace he must have sensed in these countries. In the future, he will probably delve into what he said in his communique [as heard] after visiting Nicaragua, when he said: It is not a mere expression of principles, but also a determination -- that is, the willingness to work toward a specific goal. Therefore, the solution favored by the Holy See is a political one, not a military one.

4. We therefore trust that the clamor of the mothers and the majority of the Nicaraguan people in tribute to their fallen heroes and martyrs, victims of imperialism's aggressive policy, and the clamor for peace, which prompted popular expressions during his mass at the 19 July Plaza, will be heard and interpreted as a willingness to work toward a specific direction, as expressed in his communique.

Therefore, on the departure of his holiness from our country, the national leadership reaffirms its principled policy on religion, revealed in the communique of October 1980. At the same time, it reaffirms it unchanging determination to direct our revolutionary process for the exploited and oppressed, for those thirsty for the justice of which the gospel speaks.

For their benefit, agrarian reform will continue to advance; for their benefit, educational service -- which already covers over 1 million Nicaraguans — will expand every year; for their benefit, health service coverage will be quadrupled since the revolutionary victory; for their benefit, we shall continue working in economic difficulties, further affected by the international crisis, so that the Nicaraguan people will never lack food, employment, shelter, better education and the healthy entertainment they have always hoped for; for their benefit, we will continue fighting for peace and the defense of our national sovereignty. Free fatherland or death. [Signed] FSLN national leadership.

U.S. CAMPAIGN TO 'DISCREDIT' CHURCH CONDEMNED

PA082330 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Commentary by Carlos Chamorro Coronel: "Meeting of Head Shepherds; Dead Sheep"]

[Text] This old Spanish proverb may well serve as an appropriate comment on the announced meeting between President Reagan and several congressional leaders to discuss the Central American situation.

When the head shepherds meet, an innocent sheep is always killed and beheaded. It is suspicious, however, that it should be now, when the pope's visit to Central America is about to conclude, that such a meeting should be held. The papal visit has been effusively saluted by the State Department, with its spokesman declaring that there is no contradiction between the pontiff's stand and that held by Reagan.

Furthermore, it is hardly comforting to hear the U.S. Government satanically suggesting that the church in that country is serving the Marxist interests in Central America. Archbishop (Hickey), from Washington, bravely answered this malicious accusation before a House subcommittee. The archbishop rejected the insinuation that the church's policy in Central America serves Marxist interests.

Everything seems to suggest that there is a vast campaign, launched at the highest levels of the Reagan administration, to discredit the Catholic Church throughout the continent, including the United States, preparing the terrain for the administration's most sinister plans.

In this case, the beheaded sheep would be the much-mistreated Central American people, innocent victims of these diabolical machinations to crush the clamor of the poor.

But if the State Department jubilantly proclaims that there is no contradiction between its plans and the pope's position, the response of these people, who are part of the church as the living body of Christ crucified, is that neither is there any contradiction between Christianity and revolution, as our inflamed people chanted the other day at the plaza.

ORTEGA ON U.S. POSITION TOWARD NONALIGNED

PA080417 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Mar 83

[Text] The U.S. Administration views with concern the strengthening of the Nonaligned Movement. It notes with concern the fact that more countries are joining the movement, and the interest being shown by the Latin American countries -- some of which have joined the movement, while others like Venezuela are waiting to join.

These remarks were made by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, as he was leaving for New Delhi to participate in the Seventh Nonaligned Summit Conference.

We are going with the certainty that once again the positions of the progressive countries will be strengthened, and we also hope to see a stiffening of positions regarding the acts of aggression to which the Central American peoples are being subjected, Ortega added.

STATE COUNCIL SECRETARY RETURNS FROM PLO MEETING

PA062117 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] State Council secretary and Deputy Commander Rafael Solis, along with adviser Jose Luis Villavicencio, have returned from Algiers, where they attended a meeting of the Palestine National Council as representatives of the State Council.

The Nigaraguan delegation met with Yasir 'Arafat and other Palestinian leaders, with whom they discussed the Central American and Missle East situations.

ORTEGA RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM AL-QADHDHAFI

PA082150 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Message from Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Government Junta; no date given -- read by announcer]

[Text] I would like to express to you my gratitude over and appreciation of your support for right and justice against the arrogance and imprudence of U.S. imperialism, whose policy has been characterized by provocations and threats against those nations that reject and resist U.S. hegemony and its plots. To this end, the United States is implementing every inhuman method, violating international law.

BRIEFS

MARITIME COMMUNICATIONS -- The International Telecommunications Union is currently working to improve the world maritime assistance and safety system by means of a direct telephone procedure. The new system is based on a selective call made ghrough a coded signal assigned to each ship, similar to a telephone number, and the installation of an automatic receiver on board the ship. [Text] [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 1 Mar 83 PA]

BATTALION RETURNS TO LEON -- Members of the 40-13 Battalion, who defended our northern border for several months, have returned to Leon. [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 1 Mar 83 PA]

HART BEGINS TALKS WITH SOVIET CULTURE MINISTER

FL100049 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Text] In Moscow, The ministers of culture of Cuba and the Soviet Union, Armando Hart and Petr Demichev, respectively, today inaugurated the second intergovernmental meeting on culture.

Hart, member of Cuba's Communist Party Politburo, said that the meeting takes place at a time when the U.S. Administration's belligerence has intensified, but at the same time, he noted, the world peace movement has been strengthened and the revolutionary processes have grown in numbers, especially in Central America.

Culture is an important weapon in the struggle against imperialism, for peace and the liberation of the peoples, Hart stressed.

OSMANI CIENFUEGOS SPEECH MARKS WOMEN'S DAY

FL091630 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0141 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Speech by Cuban Politburo member Osmani Cienfuegos at a ceremony held at Lazaro Pena Auditorium in Havana to commemorate International Women's Day -- live]

[Excerpts] Dear comrades, our national hero Jose Marti rightly described, in definite and eloquent terms, the enormous importance women hold for the struggle and for the fatherland. In that illuminating picture he noted that women's zeal is the cement that holds together the campaigns mounted by the peoples, and that with it, they would be invincible. That description was not just a poetic outburst, but a well-deserved tribute to their self-denial, sacrifice and combat.

Dear comrades, we do not want to conclude this ceremony without first expressing our solidarity with and sympathy for women in other parts of the world who suffer from distressing conditions, which have only been possible because of the backing of imperialism. We are referring to the Palestinian and Lebanese women, [prolonged applause] who have been subjected to Israeli aggressions. We are referring to Salvadoran and Guatemalan women, who confront the savage repression of criminal regimes. [prolonged applause] We are referring to Chilean women, who must live with the burning memory of the fascist coup, [applause] and suffer oppression in their own homeland or endure painful exile. We are referring to the fighters of the [Southern] Cone of South America [applause] and the mothers who must endure there without knowing the whereabouts of their missing sons. We are referring to the women of South Africa, who have been subjected to naziism, which still persists today as an insolent challenge to mankind. [applause]

We express that same solidarity and sympathy with the women of liberation movements, who fight side by side with the men seeking a better future for their peoples and following the magnificent example of Vietnam's heroic women. [applause] Let us salute with admiration the women fighting in Namibia and South Africa who confront a common enemy in the hateful apartheid, [applause] the courageous Palestinian women, [applause] and in Europe, the Irish women, who take part in a war that has already lasted 100 years against the last remnants of colonialism in that hemisphere. [applause]

Let us also express our solidarity with the women of the entire capitalist world -- the developed as well as the underdeveloped. [applause] They are the offended and humiliated women who are the first to suffer unemployment, growing deprivation and the effects of the economic recession that has hit mankind. Let us fight alongside the women who today confront the runaway arms race being waged by the Reagan administration knowing that peace is endangered and threatened by a decrepit and outdated social system. In the eternal memory of the mothers of our homeland, of the mambisas of the past, of the mambisas of today, we reiterate that in the marvelous tasks of the revolution the women constitute the most essential bastion of our struggle to attain a bright future for the socialist fatherland. [applause] Long live our glorious party! Long live the International Women's Day! Long live the Federation of Cuban Women! Long live Fidel! Fatherland or death, we shall win.

SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL TALKS WITH ZAMBIA

FL091800 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Lusaka -- Cuban and Zambian delegations have opened talks to establish the foundation for scientific-technical cooperation in various areas. The Zambian side is headed by Dr (Leonard Chibuno), general director of the National Planning and Development Commission. The Cuban delegation made up by Hepiberto Feraudy, Cuban ambassador to Zambia, and Santiago Riera, director of the Africa Department of the State Committee for Scientific-Technical Cooperation [title as heard]. Officials and representatives from various Zambian organizations and ministries also participated in the talks.

BRITISH CHURCH GROUP HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

FL020245 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 2 Mar 83

[Text] After a 1-week visit to our country and a visit to various centers in Havana and Matanzas, a delegation from Great Britain made up by nine religious leaders held a press conference at the main offices of the ICAP [Cuban Institute of Friendship with Peoples].

The English representatives of various churches, fielding questions from journalists, addressed topics such as: the role of the Salvadoran and Guatemalan churches, and expressed their satisfaction with Cuba's revolutionary achievements. They also responded to questions about peace and disarmament.

[Begin recording -- responses by British churchman David Young -- name displayed on television screen -- in English with simultaneous Spanish translation] There are many Christians in England who are very concerned over peace and the problem of disarmament. In my own church, the Church of England, there have been great debates about these matters. Recently, my church produced a report which recommended that the United Kingdom abandon its nuclear armaments.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADORS -- The Cuban Council of State has appointed Companeros (Gilberto Garcia Alejo) and (Rafael Fernandez Ardino) as Cuba's extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassadors to Cape Verde and Mongolia. At the time of appointment, (Garcia Alejo) was head of a department at the Foreign Ministry and (Fernandez Ardino) was deputy chief of the Foreign Relations Department in the National Assembly of the People's Government. [Text] [Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Mar 83 PA]

BAHAMAS

COUNTRY'S PUBLIC DEBT CRITICIZED AS 'TOO MUCH'

FL081903 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 3 Mar 83 p 5

[Editorial by Etienne Dupuch: "Over $400 Million Is Too Much"]

[Excerpt] The government acknowledges a public debt of just over $400 million. I wonder if that includes all the obligations of government-sponsored corporations that seem to be sliding backwards every day. Let us hope that it covers everything because even $400 million is far too much for a small country like the Bahamas, with a rapidly diminishing economy, to owe.

It seems to me that the government will soon need a colossal sum of money to restore its public utlities to some semblance of efficiency. The telephone service is certainly falling apart and the politicians are looking around for a scapegoat to blame; electrical power is also suffering from "hot flushes," which is a very bad sign; Bahamasair continues to plunge into the "red" ever since the government drove the efficient English airline that was serving the island under the name of Bahamas Airways out of the country; and the hotel corporation continues to be a disaster, not to mention the Eleuthera Ltd operation that had been a brilliant success in private hands, which has long been in a shocking condition.

The last big loan negotiated by the government was for $150 million at 20 percent interest. The government has not revealed the origin of that loan but it has not denied a report that it came from the Arabs. If so, oil money may now have the country by the throat and more besides. This is a situation that is likely to reveal itself very soon in Nassau.

BRIEFS

NEW AIRPORT -- The government is continuing to upgrade airports and other aviation facilities on the islands. A new airport at Spring Point will open tomorrow. It cost $2.2 million and will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Lynden Pindling.
[Nassau Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 9 Mar 83 FL]

BARBADOS

GOVERNMENT ASKED TO RECOGNIZE FMLN-FDR

FL091745 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 4 Mar 83 p 2

[Text] The Barbados Government has been urged by the local opposition group the Movement for National Liberation (MONALI) to speak up in international fora like the United Nations against what the movement called "the continuing violation of human rights" by the government in the Central American country of El Salvador.

The appeal has come in a letter sent to Foreign Affairs Minister Louis Tull by MONALI which also called on the government to recognise the coalition Farabundo Marti Front for National Liberation (FMLN) -- Democratic Revolutionary Front (FDR) as the legitimate and representative organisation of the Salvadoran people.

"We are confident most decent minded and upright Barbadians, urge your ministry to add a firm voice to the numerous and increasing expressions of concern in international fora like the United Nations General Assembly about the continuing violation of human rights by the undemocratic regime in El Salvador," said the MONALI letter in part.

"The Movement for National Liberation reminds the minister of the UN General Assembly resolutions 35-155 of 16 December 1981, which expressed deep concern for the situation of human rights in El Salvador, especially in view of the deaths of thousands of people and the climate of repression and insecurity prevailing in that country. The situation facing our Latin American sisters and brothers is undoubtedly worse in 1983," it added.

In its letter to Mr. Tull, the opposition political organisation also appealed to the government to condemn the increasing involvement of the U.S. Government which MONALI said has been acknowledged by the U.S. news media, to frustrate the movement towards peace and democracy in the war torn republic as well as destabilising the government of neighbouring Nicaragua.

"Omniously, the United States Government continues to follow aggressive and interventionist policies to prop up the unpopular Salvadoran regime as well as supporting subversive elements in destabilising attempts in the neighbouring sovereign state of Nicaragua. These moves by the Reagan government, openly acknowledged by the U.S. news media, are wrong and will only serve to prolong the bloodshed and injustice in El Salvador. We urge you to condemn aggressive U.S. interventionist policy which is also a threat to the peace of Central America and the Caribbean region as a whole," said MONALI.

"The Movement for National Liberation of Barbados further urges your government to publicly join the governments such as France and Mexico in recognising the FMLN-FDR as the legitimate and representative organisation of the majority of the Salvadoran people and to extend to them the appropriate moral, political and material support which such a recognition deserves," the MONALI letter to Mr. Tull concluded.

DOMINICA

GOVERNMENT CRITICIZED FOR NOT ATTENDING SUMMIT

FL081755 Bridgetown CANA in English 1641 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, March 8, CANA -- The opposition United Dominica Labour Party (UDLP) said today that the decision by Dominica not to attend the Seventh Summit of Non-aligned Countries now being held in India "was ill conceived and harmful to the national interest of Dominica and the Caribbean region as a whole."

Dominica has observer status in the Non-aligned Movement, and was represented by a two-man delegation at the last summit in Havana in 1979, at which 13 million (EC) dollars (1 EC dollar; 37 cents U.S.) was pledged to the country following the devastation caused by Hurricane David that year.

In a statement today the party, led by former Finance Minister Michael Douglas, noted that various other Caribbean countries, including Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago had decided to attend the meeting which it said "offers an appropriate avenue for under-developed countries of whatever ideological orientation to vigorously pursue solutions for the current world economic crisis."

"By not attending the present summit, the Government of Dominica is undermining the independence and credibility of this country in the international community, particularly among non-aligned nations, and is dangerously isolating Dominica from proven sources of assistance and solidarity," said the UDLP.

GRENADA

PRG EMPHASIZES HUMAN RESOURCES IN DEVELOPMENT

FL071900 Bridgetown CANA in English 1809 GMT 7 Mar 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, March 7, CANA -- Grenada's People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) says it will place emphasis on utilising the human resources of the country in developing the island's industrial sector.

The government made the pledge in a report presented to a national conference which reviewed the performance of the Grenadian economy in 1982 and made suggestions for the island's 1983 budget plan.

The government said it saw the production of items such as nectars, jams and jellies as an area to use local raw material and an avenue for providing jobs for Grenadians.

According to the document, this policy of creating what it referred to as linkages among the various areas of the economy stimulated economic growth more rapidly as such was part of the government's strategy for development.

The report also said that it was the policy of the government to involve the private sector in the industrial development of the country as long as the benefits to the country were adequate and in keeping with the objectives of the government.

The PRG came to power in a coup four years ago.

HAITI

POPE JOHN PAUL II VISITS PORT-AU-PRINCE

PA091934 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1923 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 9 Mar (EFE) -- The pope arrived today at the Francois Duvalier International Airport at 1412 (1912 GMT) this afternoon amid a crowd of people shouting with joy.

Greeted by Duvalier

FL092341 Bridgetown CANA in English 2309 GMT 9 Mar 83

[By Colin McSeveny]

[Text] Port-au-Prince, March 9, CANA-Reuter -- Pope John Paul arrived here today for a 10-hour visit to Haiti, poorest country in the Western Hemisphere and the last stop on his eight-nation tour of Central America.

He was met at the airport by President Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier, whose family has ruled the French and Creole speaking Caribbean island with an iron fist for over a quarter of a century.

President Duvalier walked, followed by his wife, to greet the pope when he arrived 20 minutes late at the Francois Duvalier Airport to the cheers of 200,000 people.

It was the first time in recent years that the president had appeared in public without his usual close bodyguard of [illegible] heavily armed men.

The pope was to say mass at the golden-walled cathedral and open a meeting of the Latin American Bishops Conference.

An anti-government group has said it cannot guarantee the pontiff's security if he goes ahead with a scheduled meeting with the 31-year old president-for-life and puts himself "at the service of the Duvalier family."

President Duvalier, in his welcoming speech, announced a major reform in the Haitian Government's relations with the Catholic Church. He said he would renounce his right under a concordat with the Holy See to nominate bishops, which has been regarded as an obstacle to church initiatives for social reforms. The late Francois Duvalier first assumed this right in 1966. The president said his decision would reinforce the autonomy of the church, "bearing in mind of course the legitimate concerns of the state."

The pope's visit was preceded by an announcement that municipal elections would be held in a month, the first poll under the rule of the president and his late father, Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier. The Roman Catholic Church leader had earlier today paid a two-hour visit to the former British colony of Belize. The pope, who rose at dawn to fly to Belize, looked tired as he addressed the crowd in sweltering heat. He thanked President Duvalier for his announcement which took some Vatican officials by surprise. He also addressed three lines in the local Creole language to the crowd which chanted, "what a feast, the pope is among us."

Haiti, which ejected Napoleon's soldiers in 1804 to found the first black republic in the world, is overwhelmingly Catholic, but most of its five million people believe to some extent in the gods of voodoo, an ancient creed brought from Africa by their slave ancestors. It is ranked by the World Bank as the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere; and hunger has prompted many people to attempt the dangerous crossing of the Florida Straits and seek illegally a new life in the United States.

Ecumenical Group on Papal Visit

PA091735 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1400 GMT 9 Mar 83

[Text] Santo Domingo, 9 Mar (EFE) -- The Latin American Ecumenical Social Action Assembly of the Caribbean Region, which is meeting in this capital, voiced concern in a communique at the possibility that the pope's visit in Haiti "may be used by the dictatorship to sanctify the poverty and oppression of the people."

In a communique signed by delegates from Haiti, Venezuela, Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic, the assembly states that it cannot allow the pope's stay in suffering Haiti "to serve to endorse the bloody dictatorship of Duvalier, who has submerged in dire misery and backwardness a nation that has the resouces and men to achieve a better and more just way of life."

Letter From Dissidents

PA082334 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Excerpt] In an open letter addressed to Pope John Paul II, the Haitian Union of Democratic and Patriotic Forces asks him to express support for the Haitian people's demands during his trip to that country. The letter states that Jean Claude Duvalier's regime is illegal and unconstitutional. It stresses that Haitian people's main demands include the lifting of the state of seige; an end to summary executions and torture; a broad amnesty, freedom of the press, and the freedom of political parties to operate.

Pope's Departure

PA100538 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0525 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 9 Mar (EFE) -- Pope John Paul II left Haiti a few minutes after midnight. He was seen off at the airport by lifetime President Jean Claude Duvalier and members of the local clergy and the CELAM.

JAMAICA

GOVERNMENT WANTS 'MODERATE' SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE

FL081815 Bridgetown CANA in English 1803 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Excerpts] Kingston, Jamaica, March 8, CANA -- Jamaica wants a "moderate" communique to emerge from this week's summit in New Delhi of leaders of the Non-aligned Movement, the governments official information arm has indicated.

"One of the outcomes (of the summit) most keenly anticipated is the tone of the final communique -- whether this one will follow the radical line of the summit of 1979 or take a more moderate approach such as the one supported by Jamaica and the more moderate members of the Non-Aligned Movement," the Jamaica Information Service (JIS) said ina dispatch from New Delhi.

According to JIS, Mr Seaga, who is to address the summit today, on Sunday caucused with other Caribbean community and Common Market (CARICOM) leaders at the meeting to coordinate regional positions at the conference.

The information service did not say what Caribbean leaders decided. Leftwing Grenada as well as Guyana are at the summit.

However, JIS added that Jamaica's presentation, which is expected to be one of the main statements on the world economic crisis, will put forward proposals the prime minister made last month in Castries at the summit of Western Hemisphere Commonwealth leaders.

At the St Lucia summit Mr Seaga called for urgent mechanism to expand credit facilities for developing countries, including loans from commercial banks.

The leaders, who included Canada's Pierre Elliot Trudeau, also endorsed a call for an emergency meeting of the governors of the IMF to make a decision to increase the allocation of Special Drawing Rights (SDR's) to member nations.

NEW AGREEMENTS ESTABLISH UN LAW OF SEA OFFICE

FL081715 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] An agreement between the UN organization and the Government of Jamaica became effective yesterday, while a second agreement was signed yesterday. The agreement which became effective provides for the establishment of an office for a special representative of the UN secretary general for the law of the sea. It also allows for the use of the conference center in Kingston, including one conference servicing floor during meetings of the preparatory commission [For the international seabed authority].

The agreements signed yesterday relates to (?committees) and communities of representatives of countries attending the meeting of the preparatory commission, the secretarial staff and possible arrangements relating to the Kingston office of the secretariat. The office became operational yesterday.

The agreement was signed by Dr Ken Rattray, (Jamaica's solicitor general), for Jamaica and Mr Bernardo Zuleta on behalf of the United Nations.

TRADE RELATIONS WITH BARBADOS REMAIN SUSPENDED

FL092151 Bridgetown CANA in English 2124 GMT 9 Mar 83

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, March 9, CANA -- Trade between Jamaica and Barbados has been on freeze since the February 21 suspension by the Central Bank here of transactions in Barbadian currency, exporters said today. "Trade has been suspended between Jamaica and Barbados," said Fred Wilmot, the executive secretary of the Jamaica Exporters Association (JEA). "There is no movement either way."

The (Central) Bank of Jamaica said that it had halted trading in the Barbadian currency until commercial banks in Bridgetown decided at what rates they would buy and sell the Jamaica dollar.

The move here followed the Tom Adams government's decision to float its currency against the Jamaica dollar, a strategy which it said aimed at regaining some of the competitive edge lost when the Jamaica Government instituted in January a dual exchange rate.

The Jamaica dollar is fixed to the U.S. currency at J1.78 dollars for an American dollar, but this rate is applied to essential imports, raw materials to be used in products to be sold abroad and for certain payments.

Other imports including most of those from members of the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM) of which Jamaica is a part, are at the more expensive parallel (unofficial) market rate set by individual commercial banks.

This has threatened a virtual trade war in CARICOM as other member states say that the Jamaica system has eroded their markets in this island, and that move was against the spirit of the treaty establishing the community.

"If you wanted to use an average, one could say that the effect of the present situation between Jamaica and Barbados to the Jamaican exporter would be at a rate of one million dollars (U.S.) a month," said Geoffrey Messado, the JEA president.

Again from Barbados, using last year's figures for an average, their loss in sales to us would be about three-quarter million dollars (U.S.) a month."

Last year Jamaica sold just over U.S. 12 million dollars worth of goods to Barbados, while Barbadian exports to this island totaled a little over 9 million U.S. dollars.

JEA Executive Secretary Wilmot has said that several orders from Barbados had actually been cancelled, and President Messado added that importers in Trinidad and Tobago were adopting a wait-and-see attitude.

"What we have had out of Port of Spain are tentative orders, for everybody is waiting for the outcome of that meeting that was held among regional central bank officials," he added.

Trinidad and Tobago is the richest market in CARICOM and purchases more than half of Jamaica's exports to the community.

The central bankers met in Port of Spain over a week ago at the behest of their governments to find ways out of the present impasse, and though reported progress, nothing has been said about actual achievements.

Noted Mr Messado: "There are no signs as yet as to whether they have found a solution. We haven't heard anything from the government out of the bankers' meeting and nothing has been done here to show any change." Central Bank Governor Horace Barber and Director of Monetary Policy Asgar Ally are off the island and other senior officials were unavailable for comment today.

However, most observers here believe that Jamaica would be unwilling to budge from its measures which Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Edward Seaga had argued were necessary for the strengthening of the economy in the existing world conditions.

MANLEY'S BOOK CONTAINS CHARGES AGAINST CIA

FL082041 Bridgetown CANA in English 1946 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] New York, March 8, CANA-Reuter -- Former Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley has said in a new book that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) stirred up violence and spread misinformation in the 1970's to destabilise his government.

He launched the book, called "Jamaica: The Struggle in the Periphery," at a press luncheon hosted by THE NATION magazine today.

It tells why the People's National Party (PNP) rejected both the left-wing Cuban and right-wing Puerto Rican models of economic development and sought "a third path" between them. This, he says, became unpopular with the U.S. Government.

The PNP won re-election in 1976 and lost to the Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) in 1980. Jamaicans have traditionally given each party 10 years in government.

The book said that, besides the increasing number of American press reports accusing Jamaica of hiding Cuban troops on the island and "similar lying references," indiscriminate violence mounted in the months preceding the 1976 election.

"Looking back at the events of 1976 ... I have no doubt that the CIA was active in Jamaica that year and was working through its own agents to destabilise us," Mr Manley said.

"They deny it to this day, but I prefer the judgements of the heads of the Jamaican security forces at the time."

An appendix adds, "after 1976, indiscriminate terrorist violence seems to yield to more direct sabotage of (the) national economy until the announcement of the general elections, when a new wave of violence claims the lives of some 750 people."

Asked why the alleged intervention would have used so much force, he speculated that the motives could have included stopping the PNP's search for alternative development models.

One of the party's problems during the violence preceding both elections had been how unknown the real policies of the social democratic PNP were to the American people, he said.

The absence of such information allowed American journalists to represent the party "as a communist surrogate, a cat's-paw of Soviet and Cuban adventurism...," he charges in the book. "Clearly this kind of coverage was part of a plan and not an element in the spontaneous reaction of a free press."

Today he said, "We must break down the isolation we have suffered in this country by building up a network that is more sympathetic."

BRIEFS

IDB LOAN -- Kingston, Jamaica, March 8, CANA -- The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is lending Jamaica U.S. 10 million dollars to be used for the development of the small farm sector here, the IDB office in Kingston has announced. A portion of the money will be used by the recently established Agricultural Credit Bank (ACB) to provide credits to 4,300 small farmers to help finance permanent investment, including all work related to soil conservation, the purchase of diary livestock and agricultural inputs as well as the payment of farm labour for annual crop, the IDB said. At another level, it will assist the Ministry of Agriculture to strengthen its own soil conservation programme. The IDB said that its loan was for 35 years with an interest of two per cent per year. The Jamaica Government has been given an eight-and-a-half year grace period before repayments begins. [Bridgetown CANA in English 1800 GMT 8 Mar 83 FL]